

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON FALKLANDS IN OAS

PY070153 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0105 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA) -- The Foreign Ministry tonight refuted a foreign news agency report which states that the recent admission of Equatorial Guinea into the OAS will eventually make it possible to accept the Malvinas Islands into that regional forum as an independent state.

The Argentine Foreign Ministry communique reads as follows: "Regarding the press agency report datelined Washington, and commenting on the fact that the entrance of Equatorial Guinea into the OAS as a permanent observer will eventually make it possible to admit the Malvinas Islands into that regional organization as an independent member state, the Foreign Ministry finds it timely to recall that such a proposition is not legally viable under Article 8 of the current OAS Charter as well as under Article 8 of the protocol of reforms approved in Cartagena on 5 December 1985, which textually states: Membership in the organization will be restricted to the independent states of the continent which are members of the UN organization on 10 December 1985, and to nonautonomous territories mentioned in the document OAS/Ser/P. AG/DOC 1939/85 of 5 November 1985 when they attain their independence.

The occupied territory of the Malvinas Islands is not included among the autonomous [as received] territories mentioned in said document OAS/Ser/P. AG/DOC 1939/85 of the OAS.

Therefore, the press agency report is false inasmuch as the Malvinas Islands can be neither an observer nor a member of the OAS."

COUNTERPROPOSAL FOR DEBT REFINANCING SUBMITTED

PY062139 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] (NA) -- Argentina's creditor banks' steering committee yesterday put forward a partial counterproposal for refinancing Argentina's foreign debt, which neither includes an answer to the country's request of a 2-1 billion dollar loan nor makes reference to the petition of a reduction in interest rates.

According to international financial sources, the steering committee's proposal refers to the capitalization of the debt, but no details on the terms of this presentation were disclosed.

The committee, which represents 350 creditor banks, gave the counterproposal to the Argentine delegation in New York on Wednesday, sources said.

Deputy Raul Baglini (Radical-Mendoza) yesterday said he did not know the details of the counterproposal, but forecast "harsh discussions" between Argentina and its creditors. He affirmed that "Argentina will not pay more than it has already proposed, because it will have to reduce its imports or increase its exports in order to do so. And that is not possible."

Baglini was a member of the Argentine delegation which presented the country's refinancing proposal to the banks three weeks ago.

The banks' counterproposal does not include an answer to several items listed in Argentina's presentation, such as a significant reduction in interest rates and a payment extension.

Argentina and the steering committee started negotiations on the 30-billion dollar debt three weeks ago. At that time, Treasury Secretary Mario Brodersohn requested a new 2.1 billion loan in order to meet the debt's obligations and achieve a four percent growth rate during this year.

ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF WARNS OF SOCIAL CONFLICT

PY061645 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1520 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (NA) -- Army Chief of Staff Hector Rios Erenu said today that "it is very difficult to pass judgment on a war using the Penal Code" because in a war "there are no crimes. There are clashes, therefore anything goes." General Rios Erenu also reasserted that "calm prevails within the Armed Forces" but he said that the trials over the human rights violations committed during the struggle against subversion "are being closely followed."

In the statement he made at the Centinela Building, which is the headquarters of the National Border Police, where President Raul Alfonsin presided over the promotion ceremony of National Border Police officers, General Rios Erenu warned that "to continue the argument over semantics on whether the struggle against subversion was a war or a repressive action is to go back 3 years." He said that "we have made progress and we are not going to continue to argue over semantics because now we have to look to the future, and because anything goes in a war." He added that "if we adopt radical positions we will unavoidably head for a social conflict."

Rios Erenu said that "the majority of Argentines make the mistake of not closely adhering to the meaning of words, when we say that we waged a just and legitimate war against an aggressor, no Argentine will disagree with this; and when we say that there were mistakes and injustices made during this war, something which, moreover, is characteristic of any war, we admit that mistakes were made." He added that "we are not obstinately adhering to this position, we have agreed to let the courts and the state of rights establish whether these mistakes and injustices deserve to be punished or sentenced by the courts."

Rios Erenu said that "we will not adopt a radical position by stating that this is the absolute truth, neither will we accept the position of those who assure that everything that was done was bad. No one can deny the fact that Argentina is living in a democratic state because it overcame the terrorist aggression." He warned that "things would have been completely different if we had failed in our confrontation against an adversary which tried to impose its ideology through arms." The Army Chief of Staff said that "we Argentines must have a good memory because, where as now some people are recalling the high number of people reported missing, some of which have not been proven, they are forgetting the members of the Armed Forces and security forces who died."

Rios Erenu said that "we must be rational and put things in their proper place because by adopting radical positions we will promote a conflict and cause the division of the nation. This is the task to which we are devoted and we are certain that we will be successful in our objectives for the good of all Argentines." He also said that "there are no crimes committed in a war. There are confrontations and this is why it is very difficult to judge these actions using the Penal Code." He also warned that "to continue arguing on whether the struggle against subversion was a war or a repressive action is to step back 3 years."

Rios Erenu said: "We have made progress and we are not going to continue arguing over semantics because now we have to look to the future and because everything is valid in war."

Further Report

PY062130 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Army Chief-of-Staff General Hector Rios Erenu yesterday said that "there is no contradiction between justifying the war against subversion and accepting the trial of military officers for things they may have done then."

Rios Erenu made these statements after the ceremony for the awarding of sabres and insignia to recently promoted Border Guard officers, which was presided by President Raul Alfonsin.

"We admit that during the war, because there was a war against subversion, mistakes were made as in every human activity, but there was no genocide, as they say. It was a show-down in defence of an aggression against deep-rooted values in Argentine society, such as the submission to our institutions," said the military chief.

Rios Erenu stressed that "we will respect the decision of the courts" but "without giving up what is the tradition of the Armed Forces."

He also claimed that "nobody can deny that Argentina is living in a democratic state because it was able to overcome the problem of aggression," adding that "it would be different if we had failed in the show-down with ideological enemies who tried to impose their thinking through armed force."

Asked about military discontent over human rights trials, Rios Erenu said that "at this time there is a struggle between the sentimental conviction of what should be and what is, which is the rule of the Constitution, the law and the powers of state."

"Wars have other laws, another nature, another essence, but to keep discussing whether it was war or repression is to go back in time three years," said Rios Erenu. "It is very difficult to judge wars through a penal code," he added.

COURT ORDERS ARREST OF POLICE OFFICER FOR TORTURE

PY062054 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Mar 87 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The Federal Appeals Court yesterday ordered the rigorous preventive arrest of Buenos Aires police Inspector Jose Antonio Raffo for torturing detainees at a clandestine detention centre.

Several people detained and tortured at the centre known as "Puesto Vasco," which operated at the San Justo investigation brigade, identified Raffo as a torturer named "Tiburón."

Raffo, however, has denied the accusations and claimed the detention centre was a "restricted area" to which only senior officers had access.

Serving Army officers will begin to testify before the Cordoba Federal Appeals Court as from next Monday, including Captains Enrique Mones Ruiz and Gustavo Adolfo Alsina.

The Permanent Assembly for Human rights (APDH), meanwhile, insisted on its request for the removal of Cordoba Court prosecutor Humberto Vidal.

The entity claimed that Vidal had rejected the appeal presented by the Armed Forces Prosecutor-General against Armed Forces Supreme Council resolutions which considered several cases of human rights violations subject to the statute of limitations. The resolutions benefitted retired General Luciano Benjamin Menendez, among other officers.

The Armed Forces Supreme Council, in turn, yesterday brought up questions of competence before the Metropolitan, La Plata and Mendoza Federal Appeals Courts on at least seven cases of human rights violations involving ten officers, including Menendez, retired Generals Jorge Maradona and Ramon Lepori and retired Brigadier Julio Cesar Santuccioni, reliable court sources reported.

The Council claimed that the cases had been taken from the military courts without "negligence" or "unjustified delay" being proven. If the federal courts do not accept the presentation, the Council will reportedly appeal to the Supreme Court.

A La Plata court declared itself non-competent to try Navy Captains Carlos Capdevila and Fernando Peyon, accused of kidnapping and torturing Nextor Arditti, and sent the cases to the Federal Appeals Court. The latter could include them in the file of human rights crimes committed at the Navy Mechanics School (ESMA).

The Association of Ex-Detainees and Missing People criticized the Federal Court for trying "only half of the almost 40" officers in the ESMA file.

Rear-Admiral Barry Melbourne Houssay yesterday became the first officer to swear to defend the Constitution "to death if it were necessary" when he became the Navy deputy chief-of-staff.

NICARAGUAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL ARRIVES

PY061617 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1355 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA) -- Upon his arrival this morning at the Ezeiza International Airport, Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Javier Chamorro stated that "despite the problems the U.S. Administration is confronting, President Reagan continues to supply material support to the contras."

In a statement he made shortly after his arrival, Chamorro said that "the counterrevolution is a military failure for the Reagan administration."

Chamorro said that "the Nicaraguan people are inflicting more and more defeats on the mercenary forces." He also did not reject "the possibility of an invasion."

He added that "despite the present situation the Reagan administration is going through, the U.S. President is obsessed with pushing us out of power."

He said that "there is a request to allot an additional \$40 million in the 1987 budget to continue helping the counterrevolution."

The Sandinist government official said that "there are new winds blowing in Latin America, winds of independence, security, and the desire to recover our identity and I believe that the Malvinas war has contributed to this."

COB DECLARES 'STATE OF ALERT' OVER COCA GROWING

PY041828 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] has declared a state of alert and warned that it will resort to its own means to prevent the consolidation of the substitution of coca leaf growing.

A communique, which was read by COB Culture Secretary Eduardo Barriga, says that the campesino affairs minister was dismissed because he opposed the plans of the U.S. Government. He added that the new officials of the Campesino Affairs and Interior Ministries will help in the substitution of coca thus going against, quote, the national interests, unquote. This is what Barriga said:

[Begin recording] This attitude demonstrates the government's total dependency which is detrimental to national sovereignty. It can be presumed that the new campesino affairs and interior ministers are going to implement this nefarious plan against the peasants and against the land which will be destroyed and made unsuitable for agriculture. This is why the COB has declared a state of alert with the mobilization of peasants. [end recording]

Barriga also reiterated that the government continues its repressive actions against the national leaders of teachers unions. [passage omitted]

LECHIN CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT COCA-GROWING POLICY

PY071255 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] In its more than 50 years of political existence, the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] has never had a 3-year program. This comment was made by COB leader Juan Lechin Oquendo.

Lechin said that the current regime is dictatorial in nature and that it does not have clear programs to cope with the situation the country is experiencing after its 1 and 1/2 years in power. Thus, the Bolivian agricultural sector has suffered restrictions that have hindered its development, because there is no interest in improving this sector, Lechin said. He also warned the government of possible reactions by the coca leaf farmers, who would see their interests harmed by the eventual implementation of a 3-year plan to struggle against drug trafficking.

[Begin Lechin recording, in progress] ...denying the statements made by [Information] Minister Antelo, who is used to serving dictatorial regimes. He is now serving a dictatorial, big stick regime. Let them try to commit outrages on the land, and they will see the peasants' reaction. [end recording]

In conclusion, Lechin pointed out that the government is preparing a large-scale repression, which can be gathered from the comments made by several government officials.

SENATE PRESIDENT SEEKS MNR CABINET SEATS

PY061239 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2358 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 5 Mar (EFE) -- Bolivian Senate President Abel Ayoroa Argandona today said that he is "frustrated" because President Victor Paz Estenssoro did not change the ministers in charge of the economic sector during last week's ministerial crisis.

Ayoroa Argandona who is a prominent government party leader said that the economic sectors ministers should have been changed because they have implemented a very harsh economic policy.

Ayoroa Argandona said: "The MNR militants hoped that Paz Estenssoro would change the ministers of the economic sector because they represent the business sector and act without social justice."

President Paz Estenssoro confirmed 13 of his ministers and changed 5, none of them from the economic sector, during an unexpected cabinet crisis on 26 February.

Ayoroa Argandona said: "We think there should be greater participation of the MNR militants in ministerial positions, otherwise the current policies will not be changed."

New Labor Minister Alfredo Franco Guachalla announced that the government will implement a social policy to solve the crisis and to take care the low-income sectors which are affected by the serious economic situation to a greater degree.

Franco explained that the Bolivian Government should do as much as possible to satisfy the workers demands in accordance with the economic policies which have been in force since 1985.

Franco Guachalla also indicated that the government should "follow the example" of U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt who was able to overcome the 1929-33 economic crisis by implementing an economic policy to combat the crisis.

The new labor minister added that he advocates dialogue with the labor sectors and that the COB is a respectable organization with valid representatives.

The statement made by the new labor minister was praised by COB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo who said that Franco Guachalla is an old militant of revolutionary nationalism and recognized his good intentions, hoping to prevent confrontations with the workers.

Lechin said that "I believe that Franco Guachalla has good intentions. I hope that the other cabinet ministers, who are fascists, will allow him to do what he wants."

Lechin Oquendo said that "so far the government has implemented a very harsh antisocial policy."

Lechin Oquendo added that in the next few days the COB will request a meeting with the new labor minister to formalize meetings between the government and workers and to study a package of economic and social demands proposed by the COB with the mediation of the Catholic Church.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS -- La Paz, 16 Feb (AFP) -- Datuk Ajib Singh, the new ambassador of Malaysia in Bolivia, today presented his credentials to President Victor Paz Estenssoro at Government House. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0035 GMT 17 Feb 87 PY] Julio Roberto Palomo Silva, the new Guatemalan ambassador to Bolivia, yesterday presented his credentials to Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 4 Feb 87 p 6 PY]

FUNARO INTERVIEWED ON U.S., EUROPEAN TOUR

PA072147 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 4 Mar 87 pp 1, 11, 38

[By Francisco Garfias and Miguel Hirsch]

[Text] Paris-Bonn, 3 Mar -- Brazilian Finance Minister Dilson Funaro stated today that in the foreign debt matter "each country must follow its own plan" and that Brazil will not follow Mexico in its negotiations with creditor banks.

During interviews with EXCELSIOR in the framework of his rapid tour through the United States and Europe, Funaro said that "the problems derived from the foreign debt are not the same in Mexico and Brazil and require different solutions." He explained: "If we had had resources with which to pay we would not have declared the moratorium. No country wants to declare a moratorium, neither does Brazil."

In Funaro's opinion "international finance mechanisms are slow and do not offer much security," and for this reason they provoke unilateral decisions such as the one adopted by Brazil.

In Paris Funaro said that "no country proposed the formation of a debtors front to pressure creditor nations and banks." He explained that "when Brazil declared the moratorium we received many telephone calls from Latin American governments supporting us, and we always explained to them that they should handle their debt situations according to the Cartagena guidelines."

Brazil does not want "confrontations with creditors. It does not want them and it is not seeking them," Funaro said in commenting on his meeting with French Government authorities who "were understanding and offered support" in the search for new financial aid in favor of the Sarney government.

Funaro also said: "I believe that each nation has the independence to resolve its problems, and Mexico is a different country. For this reason it has also followed a different road. These are two situations that require different solutions."

Upon his arrival in Bonn, Funaro said that the "differential treatment" that may be given to the foreign debt must "necessarily be oriented toward the country's social and economic development."

Brazil neither wants, nor seeks, a confrontation with creditors, it only wants "a well-balanced situation," he said.

In the FRG, financial circles expressed no concern over Funaro's visit. Consulted sources said: "There was no panic when Sarney announced the technical moratorium, either."

Prior to his visit to the FRG, Funaro was in Paris where he met with Edouard Balladur, his French counterpart; and with Jacques de Larosiere, director of the Central Bank of France. He told EXCELSIOR that he "found understanding from both of them."

Funaro said: "The French Government is going to help us defend the economic growth thesis and will speak in favor of new financial aid for Brazil."

Funaro praised Balladur, "who is one of the men who represent the five most industrialized nations and who told me that he will work to find new roads for resolving our crisis."

Funaro was asked if French "understanding" will serve to support the "technical moratorium" declared by Brazil to avoid the evaporation of its reserves. Funaro answered: "Nations do not like moratoriums. This is a unilateral position of the Brazilian Government. All countries would have preferred to have no moratorium declared, and this is how Brazil feels, also. If we had resources with which to pay we would not have declared the moratorium."

EXCELSIOR asked Funaro for details on his meeting with Balladur, but would make no comment, arguing that "it was of a private nature."

However, judging from Funaro's statements, his meeting with the French was more positive than the one he had yesterday in Great Britain where the British Government told him that debt negotiations "are bank affairs."

It has been reported that France "has already approved" two credits for Brazil. Funaro has said that he does not know the amounts involved in these credits or when they will be available.

He admitted that the possibility of reaching an agreement with IMF -- something that the bankers have placed ahead of any negotiations but something that Brazil rejects -- was discussed neither in the United States, England, nor France.

Responding to questions about alleged pressure exerted by the United States, Funaro said it is necessary to make changes in the 14-bank committee that has been handling Brazil's foreign debt since 1982.

He criticized the composition of the committee, in which the United States predominates. He noted: "I think European and Japanese banks should have a larger representation on that committee because currently 50 percent of its members are from the United States which as a whole has [reunen] 30 percent of the debt."

Following his arrival in the FRG capital, Funaro met with Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg from whom apparently he did not receive the welcome he received in France.

A spokesman for the Brazilian delegation said that Funaro did not say in Bonn that he wanted credits "but that he wanted to explain here his country's attitude and to request understanding for its development effort."

Visibly interested in appearing optimistic, Funaro's spokesman said that the purpose of this tour is to establish preliminary contact with the European governments "and that the talks will continue at the IMF meeting" at the end of April.

Since last Friday [6 March] -- 1 week after Sarney announced the suspension of payments -- Funaro has visited Washington, London, Paris, and Bonn. This evening he will apparently return to France, and from there he will travel tomorrow to Switzerland and then to Italy.

PINOCHET CALLS BISHOPS' LETTER POLITICAL MANIFESTO

PY070233 Paris AFP in Spanish 1738 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Santiago, 6 Mar (AFP) -- President General Augusto Pinochet today compared the Catholic Bishops' Lenten message to a political manifesto. Commenting on the episcopal letter which was released on Wednesday [4 March], President Pinochet told journalist: When I saw this declaration in the newspaper, I thought it referred to the dedication of a new political party. This unexpected argument between the military government and the ecclesiastical hierarchy has broken out less than 1 month before the arrival of Pope John Paul II in Chile. The pope will arrive on 1 April for a 6-day visit.

In their message, the seven members of the Permanent Episcopate Committee asked that security agents stop submitting detainees to duress, citing as an example the recent arrest of Claudia Drago Camus, niece of Bishop Carlos Camus. The prelates noted that her situation mirrors the cases of thousands of Chilean men and women who have suffered or are exposed to similar or worse mistreatment.

The episcopal letter also referred to the confession of Army Major Armando Fernandez Larios, who one month ago turned himself in to U.S. authorities and admitted his participation in the assassination of exile socialist leader Orlando Letelier in Washington in September 1986. The country's moral well-being and prestige of the Chilean Army, the bishops said, demand that this case be fully clarified not only by the courts but by the institution to which the accused belong.

Pinochet stated that in that document, the ecclesiastical dignitaries appear more concerned with worldly affairs at a time when they should be more concerned with spiritual matters, such as the coming of Holy Week. They are free to say what they want, but it would be better if they devoted themselves to prayer, the Chilean president added in the remarks he made at the La Moneda Palace.

In opposition circles, however, the attitude of the bishops is said to be of great importance because the topics they analyzed are those which cause deep concern in the country, according to Gabriel Valdes, leader of the Christian Democratic Party. Among the topics, on which the episcopal message focused its criticism, are the privatization of state services, the dismissal of more than 8,000 teachers from schools and high schools which were transferred to the municipalities, and the law for registration of voters for elections that will be held after 1989.

Referring to human rights, the prelates noted: We are told that in other countries and under other governments the same or worse things happen, and that the bishops in those countries cannot even protest. Then they added: Just the same, we have the duty to protest in behalf of the victims here and abroad, for the victims of yesterday, and for the possible victims of tomorrow.

Further Reaction to Letter

PY071636 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Several circles in Chile have questioned the contents of the letter released last Wednesday by the Permanent Committee of Chilean bishops. The letter marked the beginning of Lent.

In the letter, the bishops address important aspects of the country's situation, such as the dismissal of teachers, the human rights situation, the political parties laws, and the privatization of state-owned enterprises, among other issues. In the opinion of many people, by drawing up this letter, the bishops have overstepped their duties, which should be entirely pastoral.

In the opinion of Jaime Tormo, the Radical Democratic Party president, the letter undoubtedly addresses important national issues that cannot be denied by anyone. Nevertheless, Tormo added that the responsibility of governing a nation and caring for these problems belongs precisely to the governors and not to the bishops.

[Begin Tormo recording] This letter completely contradicts the pastoral task of Msgr Fresno. I believe that there is very little religion and a lot of politics in the letter issued by the Episcopate. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Jaime Tormo stated that this type of letter does not contribute to the creation of the atmosphere of peace and tranquillity in the country in which we want to receive the holy father.

[Begin Tormo recording] I believe that we, the laymen, will receive his holiness, the pope, with the respect that he deserves, and we would not like these attitudes, precisely from those who have to contribute to a greater extent, to make the stay of his holiness, the pope, in Chile a pleasant occasion... [Tormo changes thought] thus, I regret the fact that those who actually are not contributing to this; maybe because they don't realize it, because they are unaware of it. [end recording] [passage omitted]

For his part, Education Minister Sergio Gaete has stated that he will not respond to the criticism leveled by the bishops concerning the dismissal of teachers from the education system. The education minister said that he had already heard all this criticism before it was raised by the clergymen. He stated that he will address this issue in a speech that he will deliver on 9 March opening the academic year.

BOOBY-TRAP KILLS CARABINERO, INJURES ANOTHER

PY061745 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Excerpt] A young Carabineros officer today became another martyr when he was killed by the explosion of a bomb he was trying to defuse in Concepcion. The Carabineros Corps has identified the victim as 22-year old Noncommissioned Officer Eduardo Tamayo Medina. Corporal Fortunato Canales Gallegos, 21 years old, was seriously injured by the explosion. He has been hospitalized in the regional Concepcion hospital with injuries throughout his body.

Further details on the incident from Radio Nacional in Concepcion:

[Begin relay] Carabineros Noncommissioned Officer Eduardo Harold Tamayo Medina, 22 years old, was killed today. The Carabineros received an anonymous phone call which warned that a terrorist flag had been hoisted on a flagpole at the Laguna Redonda sector, located at the border of the Concepcion and Talcahuano communities.

After reconnoitering the area and confirming the presence of the terrorist flag, the Carabineros officer found a package at the foot of the flagpole. He checked the package and found that it was not a bomb. When he lowered the flag, a bomb that had been buried went off causing serious injuries to the officer who died while receiving treatment at the regional hospital. Corporal Fortunato Canales Gallegos, who sustained shrapnel wounds, is hospitalized at the Carabineros clinic. [passage omitted]

MINISTER CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. PROTECTIONISM

PY071452 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Chile may resort to the courts if a protectionist U.S. measure against Chilean saltpeter is implemented. This was confirmed by Mining Minister Samuel Lira Ovalle, who commented on the actions that the U.S. Commerce Department reportedly is planning against Chile. It is thought that by going to the courts, Chile will be able to answer the dumping [preceding word in English] charges that have been leveled against it.

The organization that will be in charge of resorting to the courts, if it is deemed necessary, will be SOQUIMICH, the Chilean Chemical and Mining Association. Minister Lira said:

[Begin Lira recording] SOQUIMICH is making every effort to clear up this situation with the U.S. Commerce Department. If these efforts fail, we still might resort to the courts to obtain the repeal of the tax that reportedly will be imposed on Chilean saltpeter in the United States. [end recording]

Moreover, the mining minister said that the studies that a U.S. company has been carrying out on the alleged Chilean dumping -- that is, the sale of a product below normal prices -- presumably contains more mistakes in the antidumping mechanisms being used.

[Begin Lira recording] According to U.S. antidumping mechanisms, differences between domestic prices and the prices of products exported to the United States can be compensated through taxing benefits. [end recording]

The mining minister also explained why the United States believes Chile is implementing dumping practices.

[Begin Lira recording] As a result of the investigations that have been conducted, the U.S. Commerce Department is charging that Chile is resorting to dumping practices that harm U.S. Saltpeter production.

However, the truth is that in keeping with the available information, the U.S. Commerce Department is handling mistaken information about this alleged dumping. All the investigations that have been carried out since 1982 have shown that domestic Chilean prices for saltpeter are similar to the price at which saltpeter is sold in the United States. This means that there is no dumping. [end recording]

We must add that if Chile is charged with dumping practices, Chile will have to pay a fine totaling \$4.7 million from March 1984 to February 1986.

SUPREME COURT RULING PROMPTS 'STRONG POLEMIC'

PA07041 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] The Supreme Court ruling declaring the authority of military courts to try narcotics traffickers unconstitutional has prompted a strong polemic. In light of the new Penal Code, let us see how the court's ruling affects the trials the military courts were handling up to now. Mari Villalobos reports:

[Begin recording] [Villalobos] Now that the court has ruled that military courts are no longer authorized to try narcotics traffickers, 186 narcotics trafficking dossiers will be turned over to the criminal courts. The military courts were bringing the defendants to a very fast trial, similar to a verbal court material, that lasted 10 days. As of today, these crimes are back to the ordinary process, in which the sentences range from 1 to 12 years, and fines range from 10 minimum wages [as heard] up to 8 million pesos. Some sectors feel that this court ruling favors the narcotics traffickers.

Eduardo Lozano, director of criminal hearings, denied such charges and stated that the Army's Narcotics Corps will be at the service of the judges who have narcotics trafficking cases. He also said that if the judge feels it is advisable, the defendant will remain at a military base — for security reasons — as in the case of Pablo Escobar.

Jaime Bernal Cuellar, former magistrate and member of the commission that drafted the new Penal Code, pointed out that ordinary justice is no less severe than military justice.

[Bernal Cuellar] I think instead of judging by the military, ordinary justice should be given assistance so the judges can carry out the procedures in the proper way. We should organize a judiciary police to assist and cooperate with the judges. We would then have prompt justice.

[Villalobos] In spite of the new ruling, narcotics traffickers will not have the benefits of being released on bail or conditional freedom. A total of 890 people have been captured and charged with narcotics trafficking, but only 61 are still under arrest. While the turmoil over the court's ruling increases, the president of the court rejects any criticism over the court's recent rulings. The magistrate reiterated that the rulings are based on legal criteria and not fear or commitments.

The reactions to the ruling have been mixed. Msgr Dario Castrillon stated that with this ruling, the magistrates showed they were afraid and cowards. Former Defense Minister Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva voiced a similar opinion. Then, there are those who feel that this is merely an adjustment to our Constitution. [end recording]

EFFECTS OF TREMORS ON ECUADORAN BORDER REPORTED

PA061518 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Colombia has been seriously affected by the earthquakes that shook the entire Colombia-Ecuador region. Mocoa, for example, is incommunicado due to landslides on the highways that lead to that city. Victor Miguel Garces of CARACOL's Radio Sindamanoy in Mocoa reports on the situation there this morning.

[Begin Garces relay] Good morning: Five strong tremors were registered last night and this morning in the capital of the Intendancy [of Putumayo]. The tremors took place at 2055, 2056, and 2314 last night, 0230 and 0319 this morning. Last night's tremors were the most intense. Residents of Mocoa spent the night awake awaiting a possible catastrophe. Fortunately, none was reported. The 5th Command of the Police District in Putumayo confirmed to CARACOL that the highway between Mocoa and the interior of the country is blocked, although it is not known if this is due to the tremors of the harsh winter currently affecting the Intendancy of Putumayo. It has also been confirmed that no victims have been reported. Mocoa firefighters report total normalcy in the capital of the Intendancy. [end relay]

Radio CARACOL has contacted Pasto, Ipiales, and Mocoa in Colombia; Quito, Tulcan, and Ambato in Ecuador. The tremors created panic, the people slept outside, but there have been no reports of victims or serious damage.

ECUADORAN MINISTER TO SIGN TRADE AGREEMENT

PA061834 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0356 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Bogota, 5 Mar (EFE) -- Javier Neira, Ecuadoran industries and commerce minister, said today in Bogota that the reason the payment of his country's foreign debt has been deferred "is not because we do not want to pay, but because we cannot pay."

Neira, who arrived in Bogota to sign a new bilateral trade agreement, said that his country is experiencing a dramatic situation because of the drop in petroleum prices. As a result of the fall in international petroleum prices, Ecuador lost at least \$970 million in income in 1986, which led to the suspension of interest payments on its approximately \$8.2 billion foreign debt in the beginning of the year.

The Ecuadoran industries and commerce minister indicated that President Leon Febres Cordero "has proposed a reprogramming of the payment," and he explained that this "is not really a renegotiation." Neira explained that the reason is precisely the drop in the international petroleum prices. Until December, Neira said, "Ecuador was punctual in the scheduled payments" but "beginning in January this has not been possible even though we were already proposing a reprogramming of the payments."

The Ecuadoran minister will hold meetings in Colombia with government officials and industrialists, and he will sign the new bilateral agreement in Cartagena on 8 March. Colombian Economic Development Ministry sources said that bilateral trade reactivation will be sought with Ecuador, and petroleum export policies will be agreed upon.

BRITISH CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES IN BOGOTA 4 MAR

PA042241 Bogota Inravisión Television CADENA in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Summary] General Sir Nigel Bagnall, the chief of the General Staff of the British Army, has arrived in Bogota for a 3-day visit to Colombia. Bagnall will meet with President Virgilio Barco and Defense Minister Rafael Samudio Molina.

PRESIDENT FEBRES ON QUAKE, GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

PA060252 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] President Leon Febres Cordero attended a ceremony at the Enrique Gallo School this morning and said he is confident that the national parliament will approve the bill sent by the executive branch. He said that it is the most revolutionary bill of the century and will generate thousands of jobs.

The head of state also referred to the tremors which affected a large part of the country and indicated that the government will work to resolve the problems which arose as a result of constant tremors during the last few hours.

[Begin Febres recording] The challenge we face is extraordinary, it is a political, economic, and international challenge. We witnessed an impressive show of natural forces last night and early this morning. However, I have faith that we will assume all the challenges with integrity. I hereby state my heartfelt solidarity with all the victims, and I tell the nation that the national government's overall coordinated actions are being carried out on many fronts to counter the consequences. [end recording]

Oil Exports Suspended in Balao

PA061942 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1741 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Quito, 6 Mar (EFE) — The Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation (CEPE) has announced the suspension of its oil exports from its Balao oil terminal, 300 km northwest of Quito.

The measure was adopted by CEPE manager Carlos Romo Leroux as a consequence of the damage suffered by the oil pipeline when the bridge over the Aguarico River, in the Amazon region, collapsed. This stopped the flow of oil from the wells to the terminal.

The bridge, which supported the pipeline, collapsed as a result of the violent earthquakes and their aftershocks that have been rocking large areas of Ecuador since last night.

Romo Leroux said that there are 1.6 million barrels of oil in Balao. This oil was going to be exported but now will be kept there as a reserve to satisfy Ecuador's national demand for 20 days.

Government Measures Taken

PA071931 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Ecuadoran oil from the Amazon region could temporarily flow through the Colombian oil pipeline, it was reported yesterday.

On Monday a Mexican mission will arrive in the country to study the possibility of building a 15-mile-long emergency oil pipeline between Lake Agrio and the Santiago River so that the oil production may reach the Pacific coast and Ecuador may then have access to it for domestic consumption and export.

Meanwhile the Energy Ministry has adopted the following measures: It has put Texaco Company, which operates the oil pipeline, in charge of repairing the damaged pipeline. This decision was adopted to prevent the legal procedures that CEPE [Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation] would have to face. It has also authorized the CEPE manager, in coordination with the Finance Ministry, to sign whatever contract is necessary rapidly and without further authorization. Oil production has been suspended in eastern Ecuadoran oil fields because it is impossible to transport the oil out. Oil exports were suspended as of yesterday so that the crude stored in Balao may be used for domestic consumption for approximately 35 days.

It has been decided that as of this Sunday, gas stations in urban areas will be closed on weekends. It was also decided to close gas stations along highways on alternate weekends. There will be restrictions on travel in privately owned vehicles during the week. The restrictions will be applied to vehicles according to their license plate numbers. On Mondays, vehicles with even-numbered plates may be used, on Tuesday those with odd numbers, and so on. It has been decided to put restrictions on the oil dispatched from CEPE sites. It will now be dispatched for 6 hours a day during workdays only. Refinery operations producing gasoline have been reduced to 30 percent of normal. No fuel will be sold to foreign planes or ships traveling to or from Ecuador.

DEPUTIES, SENATE APPROVE ANTITERRORIST LAW

PY061331 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2024 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 5 Mar (EFE) -- Last night the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies approved the new Antiterrorist Law and deleted the articles referring to the press, considering that these articles "harm freedom of the press, which is protected by the Constitution."

These articles, which had been approved by the Senate, imposed long prison terms on those who, through newspapers, radio, or television, incite violence, "endorse terrorism," or alleged terrorists.

In a debate preceding the approval of the new law, the opposition expressed its doubts as to whether terrorism will be stopped by this law. Newspapers had expressed alarm over these articles, stating that they represented a Damoclean sword to journalists.

AIR FORCE HELICOPTER DESTROYED IN AMAZON REGION

FY061500 Paris AFP in Spanish 1410 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 6 Mar (AFP) -- A Peruvian Air Force (FAP) helicopter was destroyed by presumed drug traffickers at the Tocache air field in San Martin Department, in the Amazon Region. Police today reported that the attack left 1 dead (a policeman) and approximately 20 wounded, including a general and a colonel.

The attack, which was blamed on gangs of drug traffickers operating in the region, occurred yesterday when the helicopter was preparing to take off on another "Operation Condor" mission, government officials said.

The dead policeman and the wounded -- among whom are Civil Guard General Cesar Zarate, chief of the Antidrug Police; and an unidentified FAP colonel -- were taken to Tingo Maria, approximately 600 km northeast of Lima.

FAP helicopter No 618, which was being used in the operation to crack down on cocaine traffickers in the Peruvian Amazon region, was full of police commandos when it was hit by a grenade of the Instalassa type. It was reported that the grenade was fired by a mortar from the thick woods which surround the air field. The attackers also machinegunned the helicopter and wounded at least 20 agents. It is not known how many people participated in the attack.

Despite the secrecy over the ambush, local radio stations have reported that Shining Path guerrillas may have also participated in the attack. According to previous reports there are active Shining Path guerrillas in the region and they are allied to the drug traffickers.

The policeman who was killed has been identified as Victor Aguirre. However, local radio in Tarapato, nearby Tocache, this morning reported that more people may have been killed and that the victims were evacuated yesterday from Tingo Maria aboard an airtaxi. The same source reported that the local airport in Tocache, a province in the San Martin Department, located in the Amazon Region and about 800 km northeast of Lima, was closed down and that, because of the prevailing bad weather, police reinforcements were unable to enter the area which has been besieged for quite sometime by drug trafficking and terrorism.

This region, located in the heart of the high Ucayali Region, has been the site of a hard struggle against drug trafficking through "Operation Condor" which has been carried out since August 1985.

Up to now this operation has resulted in the destruction of over 100 clandestine airports, modern laboratories and installations for the manufacture and sale of the drug; and the confiscation of thousands of tons of cocaine base, Colombian aircraft, and modern weapons.

TERRORIST ATTACKS PLUNGE HUANCAYO INTO DARKNESS

PA081700 Paris AFP in Spanish 1611 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 8 (AFP) -- The city of Huancayo and other townships of Mantaro valley, located east of Lima, were plunged into darkness after terrorists blew up a high-tension tower last night, taking advantage of the darkness to set off the explosives, police reported today. Huancayo, capital of Junin department, 310 km east of Lima, and many townships of Mantaro valley, have been left without electricity since 2100 (0100 GMT) after a high-tension tower located 7 km from that city was blown up. The terrorists availed themselves of the darkness to set off dynamite charges in several parts of the city, particularly in front of the cathedral and the Armas Plaza, causing business establishments to shut down and frightening people, who quickly sought refuge. Thus far no casualties have been reported. There has been property damage. Police street patrols were beefed up to preclude new attacks. Dozens of suspects have been arrested. Last week, in similar attack, Huancayo was without power for 19 hours.

The inhabitants are uneasy due to the increased terrorist activities in the region and the death of Commander Emilio Chumbe, chief of police intelligence who was killed by terrorists 2 days ago, the source added. Other areas affected by the outage are Huayucachi, Chongos Bajo, Tambo, Chilca, Concepcion, and Jauja.

Meanwhile, 6 districts of Castrovirreyna Province, Huancavelica, 522 km southeast of Lima, which do not have police or military guards, are constantly attacked by Shining Path commandos who have caused 17 deaths, including officials, policemen, and peasant over the past few months. A former mayor of the region who chose to remain anonymous said this last night. Many families of the districts of Villas de Arma, Capillas, Aurahua, Chupamarca, Huambatambo, and San Juan "intimidated by the death threats have left their homes in search of safer places," he indicated. He noted that six peasant officials were executed in Chumpamarca, seven officials were killed in Aurahua, two leaders of the ruling American Revolutionary Popular Alliance Party were killed in Vila Arma, and two peasants were killed in Capillas.

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS ON 3-NATION TOUR

PY062212 Paris AFP in Spanish 1914 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner today departed on a trip that will include visits to Argentina, Guayana, and Uruguay, where he will participate in meetings in which the Central American crisis, international trade, and cooperation will be discussed.

Wagner stated that he will stay in Buenos Aires, the first leg of his 9-day trip, for 2 days and will meet with Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to discuss bilateral, economic, and trade cooperation. The two foreign ministers will also discuss the negotiations that the Contadora Support Group (Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay) is carrying out to seek a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis.

On 8 March, Wagner will depart for Georgetown, Guyana, where he will participate in the nonaligned countries meeting that will be held from 9 and 11 March. The political and economic crisis of Latin America will be discussed during this meeting. Wagner stated that the foreign ministers of the 70 member-countries will discuss the foreign debt crisis, Latin America's political situation, the development of the region's democracies, and the Central American situation.

The Peruvian foreign minister also indicated that he will be in Montevideo, Uruguay, between 11 and 13 March to participate in the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Censensus of Cartagena. The meeting will discuss the region's preferential tariffs. He explained that this round of negotiations will center on the possibility of attracting trade from other areas toward Latin America with the purpose of adjusting the balance of payments of the region's countries.

The foreign ministers of the four member countries of the Contadora Support Group will take advantage of the Montevideo meeting to hold another round of talks. The Contadora Support Group is helping the Contadora Group in its peace negotiations for Central America. Wagner stated that they will coordinate the efforts the group can make, with an eye to the upcoming, but undated, summit meeting the Central American presidents will hold in Esquipulas. The Peruvian foreign minister said that, as things now stand, we are optimistic that the path of peace can be found for that region, and he added that he will return to Lima on 14 March.

POLICE DEFUSE TIME BOMB IN LIMA THEATER

PY062324 Paris AFP in Spanish 1643 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Lima, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Lima police reported today that a time bomb was defused last night at the Marzano Theater in the Miraflores District, shortly before a performance began. In a packed theater, the play "Only 80" by Collins Higgins, was to be performed. The star in this play is Eva Franco, the famous Argentine actress. The play is directed by her countryman, Osvaldo Cattone, who has been residing in Lima for 8 years. The dynamite time bomb was set to detonate at 1800 [2300 GMT]. Had it gone off at that time, when the theater was packed to capacity, a tragedy of unpredictable consequences would have resulted, a police agent who participated in the defusing operation said. An anonymous phone call alerted police that a bomb had been planted in the theater. No terrorist group has yet claimed responsibility for the action. [passage omitted]

UN SECRETARY GENERAL ON NATIONAL, GLOBAL ISSUES

Supports PLO, SWAPO

PY052252 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1703 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 5 Mar (EFE) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar today justified the armed struggle of the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) and SWAPO (South-West African People's Organization) because national liberation is "a just cause."

At a news conference held in Lima at the end of a private visit, Perez de Cuellar said that "some armed movements have a just cause and others do not."

He revealed that the United Nations is trying to formulate a convention on terrorism. This, he added, poses a "delicate" problem, because "movements such as the PLO and SWAPO have to resort to armed struggle." Perez de Cuellar said that Israel and the United States have so far opposed the idea of an international conference promoted by the United Nations to resolve the Middle East conflict, a conflict "older than the United Nations itself."

Asked about the Central American situation, the UN secretary general recalled, in the first place, the need to respect the principle of "nonintervention in internal affairs," and then he added, the problem will be solved whenever all its aspects, not just the political aspect, are contemplated. He insisted that the roots of the conflict can be found in economic and social factors, and that "the overall solution calls for massive assistance to the countries of the region."

Regarding the economic situation of the world organization itself, Perez de Cuellar noted that the organization has "a considerable deficit" because the United States has not yet paid its 1986 dues and has not contributed anything in 1987. However, he said, countries from East and West Europe and the Persian Gulf have advanced their 1987 dues to cover the deficit.

The UN secretary general arrived in Peru last Saturday on a private visit. Nevertheless, he held meetings with President Alan Garcia and Foreign Minister Allan Wagner Tizon.

Perez de Cuellar publicly congratulated the Peruvian diplomacy for its successful effort to include the topic of the foreign debt in the agenda of the General Assembly. "I think this is a big success for Peru," he said.

Following the news conference, Javier Perez de Cuellar and his wife Marcela Temple returned to New York.

Discusses Antarctica, Refugees

PY061601 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Excerpts] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, a Peruvian citizen, today stated that he was able to note a true willingness to preserve human rights in our fatherland. The UN secretary general made this comment during a news conference held today at the Country Club Hotel. Shortly after the news conference, Perez de Cuellar returned to New York after a 5-day private visit to our country. During the news conference, Perez de Cuellar addressed a number of domestic and international issues.

Concerning the foreign debt issue, Perez de Cuellar described as a success for the Peruvian diplomacy the fact that the foreign debt issue has been included in the upcoming UN General Assembly agenda. This issue is scheduled to be discussed in September 1987.

Concerning the situation of the three Cuban citizens who are staying in the Peruvian Embassy in Cuba, Perez de Cuellar stated that this problem can be overcome through negotiations by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Question indistinct]

[Perez de Cuellar] Concerning Antarctica, as you well know there is an agreement. Some countries are full-fledged members of this agreement while other countries, Peru among them, have a different status. All the countries that consider Antarctica to be the property of humanity have raised this issue at the United Nations, explaining that the sea bottom is also the property of humanity. This problem is included in the agenda and is being carefully studied. The UN General Secretariat has even released a report on this issue and will continue releasing reports as the member-countries, through resolutions at the UN General Assembly, request that this problem be studied.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, three Cuban citizens who would like to leave the island have been staying in a room at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana for more than 5 years now. Can the United Nations do something for them or must they file a petition with the International Court of Justice?

[Perez de Cuellar] The United Nations has a channel for this problem, which is the local representative of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. I just talked with him. He is here. It is through him that a [word indistinct] may be achieved on the way the United Nations can resolve this problem which, at first sight, I believe is a local law problem [passage omitted] [end recording]

Views Disarmament, LA Problems

PY071654 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1531 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 4 Mar (EFE) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar stated here today that the Soviet proposals on nuclear disarmament "are viewed with satisfaction" by the United Nations. He said, however, that they are only initial steps owing to the great distrust among the nuclear powers, and this obstacle is reflected in the nuclear disarmament dialogue.

Perez de Cuellar added that we must also "fight" for conventional disarmament. He said that the West European countries distrustfully view the Soviet power and superiority in the field of conventional weapons. But in any case, Perez de Cuellar stated, there will be no peace in the world while the socioeconomic problems of the Third World countries are not solved, because peace does not only mean the absence of war.

Perez de Cuellar also referred to the foreign debt problem, stating that the creditor countries have already "digested" the idea of shared responsibility between the rich countries and the debtors. He said that the debtor countries "cannot pay more than what they have," and that the social issue involved in the payment of the debt must also be considered.

Perez de Cuellar said that governments must first think of their citizens instead of their contract obligations, and urged the industrialized nations to help the developing nations bail out of their serious foreign debt problem.

He added that in September the United Nations will hold a meeting on the debt issue, and that he has hope that "a formula for solving the problem will be found."

Commenting on the Central American situation, Perez de Cuellar praised the efforts of the Contadora and Support Groups, stating that they deserve international recognition. He said that as long as some Central American countries maintain their stubborn positions, there will be no solution to the situation in the area. He reiterated his position that there is no general political desire to achieve solutions.

Perez de Cuellar concluded by saying that the problem of political violence in Peru is incomprehensible, because it is a country with a democratic government where all citizens can express their points of view with no need "to resort to weapons."

MRTA BEGINS MASS INDOCTRINATION CAMPAIGN

PY061312 Paris AFP in Spanish 1540 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 5 Mar (AFP) -- Police reported today in Lima that, in a mass indoctrination attempt, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) yesterday seized a factory with 70 workers, and a church filled with parishioners in Arequipa, south of Lima, and lectured to the people.

Meanwhile, three agents who were guarding the Mal Paso Bridge in Pasco Department, 320 km southeast of Lima, were abducted by presumed subversives after seizing their FAL rifles. In another attempt a minor was murdered and his mother seriously wounded in Ayacucho, apparently for deserting from the Shining Path's ranks.

A MRTA commando, four men and two women, armed with machineguns and revolvers, raided the Peruvian Bottle Company in the Lima district of Ate, where they captured the 70 workers by threatening them, took them to the main yard, and forced them to listen to a 15-minute revolutionary speech given by the leader. The commando fled before the police patrol arrived.

In a new modus operandi, another MRTA command which consisted of four armed men and a woman all wearing hoods, yesterday, 4 March, in a surprise move raided a church in the Miraflores district of Arequipa, 1,000 km south of Lima, where they harshly criticized the government and urged the people to join them in the armed struggle, while the priest, Father Javier Aguilar, and a large number of parishioners helplessly watched.

The event, the first of its kind in this city, which is the second most important city in the country, was carried out by the subversives after closing the doors of the church and telling the parishioners to remain calm and that nothing would happen to them.

In Chimbote, 415 km north of here, presumed terrorists attacked the houses of four workers of the Sider-Peru (an important state steel complex) with incendiary bombs apparently for not joining the strike that began 16 days ago by the workers union of that enterprise in support of better salary demands.

BRIEFS

EEC AID REPORTED -- Lima, 18 Feb (AFP) -- Robin Fearn, UK assistant deputy secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, announced here today that the EEC will grant Peru around \$60 million in technical assistance over the next 5 years. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1408 GMT 18 Feb 87 PY]

36,000 ELECTRICIANS END STRIKE IN MEXICO CITY

PA061306 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Report by Felipe Milpa]

[Text] The workers of the Mexican Trade Union of Electricians [SME] responded positively to the call of the Federal Conciliation and Arbitration Board, which declared the end of the strike in the Center Light and Power Company that is up for sale.

Before 0800 the 36,000 workers, including the administrative, technical, and operational personnel grouped in the SME, returned to their activities in each and every one of the installations of the Center Light and Power Company. The flags and strike propaganda had disappeared since Wednesday night [4 March] and early Thursday morning.

At the headquarters of the Center Light and Power Company hundreds of people arrived hurriedly to punch the time clock and resume their activities despite the bad weather. The workers returned to work in a climate of absolute calm.

PEMEX REPORTS DROP IN FEB OIL EXPORT PRICE

FL061632 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0120 GMT 6 Mar 87

Mexico City 5 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- [Text] The Istmo and Maya-type crude prices were established at \$17.25 and \$14.45 respectively, for exports to the Far East during February, Pemex reported today.

This implies a price reduction compared to January, for a decline of 32 and 15 cents, respectively.

Pemex reported that the drop in the prices of Mexican crude reflects price behaviors on the international market, where Istmo and Maya oil compete in the Far East.

The prices established by Pemex are retroactive to February shipments to the Far East, while those for America and Europe are applied by shipment, based on calculations linking Mexican oil prices to crude prices from other countries.

The parastate oil firm has a contract with the Mexican Crude Japan Import Company [compania importadora de crudo mexicano al japon] for 180,000 barrels per day. That volume includes 150,000 barrels of Istmo-type oil and 30,000 barrels of Maya-type oil.

MEETING DISCUSSES IMPACT OF SIMPSON-RODINO LAW

FL062118 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0319 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 5 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor has asserted that the Mexican Government should prepare to absorb the undocumented Mexican workers displaced by the Simpson-Rodino law.

Closing the third meeting of Mexican consuls in the United States in which several measures were adopted to protect the human and labor rights of migrant workers, the Mexican foreign secretary acknowledged that each country is entitled to set the rules of the game on migration matters. However, he said that, at the same time, it cannot be denied that the effects of certain laws surpass national boundaries and this is the case of the Simpson-Rodino law.

Because Mexico is one of the most affected countries, it has the duty to assess the impact the law will have on its fellow Mexicans and to take adequate actions. Among the decisions taken during the meeting is to strengthen the Mexican consular system in the United States and give priority attention to the protection of Mexicans so that they promptly and efficiently receive the necessary information and assistance pertaining to their stay in the United States or their return to Mexico.

To this effect, it was agreed to set up an informational program through the consulates and simplify administrative procedures in coordination with various sectors to facilitate the accessibility of documents Mexicans residing in the United States need.

Regarding seasonal migrant workers, it was reported that the Mexican Government will decide the advantages of agreeing to such a program. Coordination among secretariats was examined to decide the action the federal and state governments will take responding to the needs of Mexicans affected by the Simpson-Rodino law. Officials from the Interior, Planning and Budget, and Labor and Social Welfare Secretariats participated in the meeting to study the measures to receive, resettle, and reincorporate deported people.

It was decided to maintain a close and constant communication with U.S. authorities at various levels to ensure that the human and labor rights of Mexicans are respected.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat will continue giving priority to the subject within the framework of our country's political relations with the United States to convey the concerns the law and its implementation bring up.

Sepulveda on Effects of Law

PA070149 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Relations Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda has asserted that only coordination between the Mexican and U.S. Governments will make it possible to handle adequately Mexican citizens who are being deported. He added that the Mexican authorities must prepare for the time when the Simpson-Rodino Law sends our fellow citizens back to national territory. Sepulveda recognized that the law infringes on our national sovereignty, so the Mexican Government must carefully analyze its consequences and implications.

The foreign relations secretary asserted that the Mexican diplomats' fundamental role in the United States is to give advice to all our fellow citizens concerning the rights and obligations that the new law grants them. Foreign Relations Secretary Sepulveda Amor yesterday closed the third meeting of Mexican consuls accredited in the United States.

FISHING COOPERATION TALKS CONTINUE WITH CUBA

FLO71911 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2015 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Enrique Oltuski Ozacki, Cuban vice minister of the fishing industry, reported today that Mexico and Cuba are conducting negotiations to maximize fishing exploitation of their common waters.

Interviewed at the Mexico City international airport, Oltuski indicated that technical meetings between the two governments are continuing and that they seek to consolidate a fair bilateral agreement.

In a brief statement, Oltuski stressed that Cuba supports Latin American nations that advocate a tuna fishing bloc that will essentially benefit the countries involved.

EEC'S CHEYSSON EXPLAINS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

FLO61551 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1826 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Madrid, 5 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The EEC does not finance development projects in Mexico, EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson, responsible for Mediterranean policy and North-South relations, said today.

Cheysson explained that available credits for financial assistance to non-member developing countries are used to fund agricultural and food development actions in the poorer nations of Asia and Latin America.

However, he added, the EEC is financing various cooperation projects with Mexico in scientific investigation, energy programming, trade promotion, statistics, and in interbusiness rapprochement.

Cheysson said that the EEC will finance the construction of a general hospital in Mexico for the needy and people without public health service coverage. This measure was adopted after the earthquake that struck Mexico City in September 1986. [passage omitted]

PETRICIOLI SAYS RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PAY DEBT

FLO70014 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1346 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Chihuahua, Mexico City, 6 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- After inaugurating the Domestic Customs Office in Chihuahua City, Gustavo Petricioli, Mexican finance and public credit secretary, said there is no reason to consider a moratorium on our foreign debt because it is not Mexico's plan.

He added that Mexico has succeeded in renegotiating its debt and lowering its costs and interest rates, which is something no other country has done, in addition to considerably increasing the Central Bank's reserves.

Accompanied by Fernando Baeza Melendez, governor of the State of Chihuahua, and Juan Arevalo Gardoqui, national defense secretary, Petricioli said 30 percent of nonoil exports have provided the resources needed to pay the country's debt.

For his part, Arevalo Gardoqui said the Army has not committed abuses against Indians or any other group of people in their fight against drugs. He said that during his 4 years as defense secretary, 14,000 people have been arrested for planting and trafficking in narcotics.

Sepulveda Comments on Debt

PA081755 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda has stated that Mexico's financial obligations cannot violate Mexico's main goal: national development.

The foreign secretary said this during a meeting with members of the labor congress. He told them that Mexico has an independent foreign policy. He noted that our country maintains its national integrity and sovereignty. Sepulveda added that the federal government is looking for ways to restructure the debt with an emphasis on joint responsibility and equity.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE CREDIT -- Tokyo, 6 May (NOTIMEX) The Japanese Export-Import Bank today granted a \$100 million credit to Pemex for an oil project on the Pacific coast. The contract, signed this morning in Tokyo, does not commit Mexico to purchase Japanese products, the bank said. The Pemex project includes the construction of pipelines, oil and gas storage tanks, oil and ammonia refineries, and port installations [Summary] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1636 GMT 6 Mar 87 FL]

DEBT WITH SPAIN -- Mexico City, 6 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit has reported that Mexico and Spain signed agreements to restructure the \$110-million debt of the national public sector. The debt was contracted prior to 31 December 1985 and guaranteed by Spanish foreign trade agencies. The Mexican Foreign Trade Bank signed for our country, while the Official Credit Institute and the Export Credit Assurance Company signed for Spain. [Excerpts] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0305 GMT 7 Mar 87 FL]

MARIJUANA SEIZURE, ARRESTS -- The most important marijuana production and distribution center ever discovered in the country has been closed down in the State of Sinaloa by members of the Federal Judicial Police (PJF). The policemen arrested 35 persons and confiscated 7 tons of marijuana already prepared for shipment to the United States. They also destroyed a 9-hectare area that was planted with marijuana, and seized sophisticated equipment used to sow, raise, harvest, and package the drugs. According to the reports from the Attorney General's Office, the operation was carried out in Rosario municipality, in the jurisdiction of Apoderados and Cruz Pedragosa, close to Mazatlan, Sinaloa. Several automobiles and an unspecified amount of weapons were also confiscated during the action. [Excerpts] [Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Mar 87 p 6 PA]

OVIDIO DIAZ ON USSR VISIT, DIPLOMATIC TIES

PA071450 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Mar 87 p 20a

[By LA PRENSA reporter Zoila Rodriguez Jovana]

[Text] Regarding the possible establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Panama — an issue that he discussed during his visit to that country — Panamanian Legislative Assembly President Ovidio Diaz has told LA PRENSA that the trade and diplomatic relations exclusively concern the executive branch.

However Ovidio Diaz said that that does not mean that the delegation of Panamanian legislators did not listen to the viewpoints of authorized Soviet representatives when they related their desires to the Panamanian legislative delegation. Such desires had already been expressed through conversations with the Panamanian Government.

In that dialogue the Soviet representatives spoke of the possibility of Aeroflot Airlines arriving in Panama. According to Ovidio Diaz, this time the Russian diplomats showed surprise at the lack of attention given to their request.

The Soviet representatives were also interested in building a shipyard on the Panama Canal to repair fishing vessels.

Ovidio Diaz added that "the Soviet Union is the third largest user of our canal and in that context, everything that means revenues for our country must be welcomed."

Ovidio Diaz said that as parliamentarians they talked extensively with top Soviet representatives as well as with top representatives of the PRC. He announced a possible visit of a Soviet delegation to Panama "and this time the assembly has the power to make friends wherever it wishes and to maintain parliamentary ties with such friends."

STATE DEPARTMENT COMMUNIQUE ON FREE PRESS VIEWED

PA070226 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 6 Mar 87 p 6

["Let the People Judge" column by Ricardo Lince: "The New International Information Order"]

[Text] In a futile attempt to divert attention from the Irangate case, the Reagan government, in a State Department communique, has charged Panama with violating freedom of the press. This subject is a thorny one for the United States, which is the leader of imperialism in information, and thus has no moral authority to bring up the subject.

It is an imperialism of information forged in extreme inequality, as can be seen in reports of the monopolization of the mass communications media by giant corporations, which impose their concepts on our peoples and meddle in our lives.

Our countries have been condemned to the role of passive recipients of slanted, incomplete, and distorted reports, as is the recent case that offends Panamanian dignity. In the United States itself, some 60 newspapers are absorbed each year by these sharks of the press, which monopolize the manufacture and sales of communications equipment to allow those cartels to control the communications media as a way to have the U.S. culture dominate Latin American minds.

In a sneaky way, U.S. capital has taken the local communications system under its wing, through its banks. It also manipulates the local press through costly advertisements, so that our press loses its service functions and becomes -- as it has indeed become -- subject to a commercial and political dependency. Its strategy, as it was applied in Panama, is to create the impression that we are incapable of independent existence (in regard to administering the canal). Since most of our countries do not have a network of correspondents, they rely entirely on the information given by these monopolist agencies, thus allowing them to broaden and expand their influence and saturate us with information -- like Reagan's speech last night -- in order to direct our lives and our foreign, cultural, and social policies.

We must not be deprived of the right to inform and be informed in an objective and accurate manner. For this reason, the new international information order and the communications media are of the utmost importance, as important as the international economic order which the Third World countries demand. That information order is linked to the struggle against colonialism and presupposes a free exchange of information and the establishment of cultural sovereignty which is, in the final analysis, freedom of thought in the world press.

BRIEFS

FUGITIVES TURNED OVER TO U.S. -- The Panamanian Government has turned over fugitives Peter Anthony Barron and Hernan Rueda Garcia to U.S. federal authorities. Barron has been charged with committing fraud against as well as swindling a San Diego, California bank for more than \$2 billion. Colombian Rueda Garcia has been accused of illegally importing, possessing, and distributing 10,000 pounds of marijuana in Chicago and 11,000 pounds in Toledo, Ohio. [Summary] [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Mar 87 PA]

COSTA RICAPRESIDENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON TOWER REPORT

PA070219 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Report by Milagros Espinosa from the Presidency of the Republic]

[Text] The Presidency of the Republic has just issued a communique regarding the Tower Commission report. According to the communique, first of all, the president of the Republic has never talked, either over the telephone or personally, with Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North. Mr. North must clarify this misunderstanding and give his reasons for making assertions that depart from the truth.

The second point notes that the public knows very well that there are some disagreements between the Costa Rican and U.S. Governments regarding policy in Central America. Costa Rica has applied its neutrality policy strictly and has reiterated that its territory will not be used, under any circumstances, for armed actions or logistical support of any groups attempting to destabilize another government.

Third, the communique points out that some U.S. Government authorities talked to Costa Rican Government authorities to persuade the latter to modify Costa Rica's neutrality posture. These talks never threatened Costa Rica, openly or otherwise with suspension of U.S. economic aid for Costa Rica. The posture of the Costa Rican Government was respected at all times. This government has maintained and continues to maintain the firm determination to never permit the national territory to be used for any actions at variance with the Costa Rican people's pacifist tradition and neutrality policy regarding armed conflicts in friendly countries.

The fourth point says that the Tower Commission's report asserts that the Potrero Grande, Guanacaste Province, landing strip was used (?6 June) 1986. The communique added: I have ordered the Foreign Relations Ministry to file a vigorous protest with the U.S. Government if such a flight did take place with the approval of top U.S. Government authorities. The communique also said that if the landing strip was indeed used, this would entail a flagrant violation of the national sovereignty and the reiterated U.S. Government pledge to respect Costa Rica's neutrality.

Retraction Demanded From North

PA072235 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2131 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 7 Mar (DPA) — The Costa Rican Government will demand that U.S. citizen Oliver North (former National Security Council member) "make a public statement that he never threatened (Costa Rican) President Arias with the withdrawal of financial aid worth \$80 million if Costa Rica revealed the existence of an airport near the Nicaraguan border that was used to supply the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries struggling to overthrow the Sandinist government."

The Presidency issued a statement in San Jose announcing that "it will demand from North that he withdraw the statements which — according to the Tower Commission report — he made about Costa Rica."

Aside from that, "the Costa Rican Government will present a stern protest to the U.S. Government, if it is ever proven that the rural airport, located at Potrero Grande de Santa Elena in the Province of Guanacaste, was ever used without the permission from the Government of Costa Rica."

GOVERNMENT WARNS CONTRAS TO OBEY LAWS OR LEAVE

PA082006 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1836 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 8 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Government today warned the Nicaraguan "contras" that it will suspend their political asylum and ask them to leave the country immediately should they carry out activities here in violation of Costa Rican law and against its peace efforts. In a press communique, the Presidency of the Republic states that this decision is to protect Costa Rica's respect for the right of asylum and ban those enjoying asylum from focusing "their activity on the promotion or use of force or violence."

The presidential decision came after a meeting between President Oscar Arias Sanchez and Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto. They analyzed a meeting of the directorate of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) that ended on 4 March in Miami, United States. In that meeting, which lasted several days, Alfonso Robelo, Arturo Cruz, and Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, UNO directorate members, agreed to manage the organization's finances. The agreement states that "all" funds, public or private, including those earmarked for military and political purposes, will be under the control and responsibility of the UNO directorate, which will establish the priorities for the use of those funds.

The official Costa Rican communique states that, according to the meeting in Miami, UNO, which "so far has had a political and civic nature, will now control and use funds channeled to the insurgents who are operating militarily" against the Nicaraguan Government. The communique also states: "In this case, the UNO would be going beyond the exclusively political space granted by Costa Rican law to those who do not enjoy freedom in their native countries."

According to the presidential communique, the anti-Sandinist leaders, whose political activities include direct and indirect links with the armed struggle in Nicaragua, "may not continue enjoying asylum." These "actions would be in violation of Costa Rica's laws and work against the peace efforts" of the country.

The communique states that, in view of this "new situation," the Foreign Ministry will call on the UNO leaders living in Costa Rica "to give full guarantees that they will not carry out in the national territory any activity connected with military actions or the financing thereof."

"As an initial measure, they (the contras) will be instructed not to hold any meetings in Costa Rica, it being understood that if they fail to comply with this directive, their political asylum will be suspended and they will have to leave the national territory immediately," the note stresses.

The Assembly of the UNO, which is made up of 13 anti-Sandinist organizations, today began a regular meeting in this capital during which it will try to expand its board of directors and admit new members. The meeting, which according to an anti-Sandinist spokesman opened yesterday with certain "procedural" actions, will adjourn tonight.

EL SALVADOR

PARLIAMENT PRESIDENT SCORES STRIKING DEPUTIES

PA081841 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 6 Mar 87 p 2

[Excerpts] Dr. Guillermo Guevara Lacayo, president of the Legislative Assembly, has stated that "the so-called parliamentary strike is a flop and on top of that it is an act of fraud against the people who voted for deputies who are very punctual when it comes to receiving their salaries."

Guevara Lacayo said that the strike by opposition deputies has no importance at all since parliamentary work has continued. [passage omitted]

He noted that "the Christian Democratic Party is holding talks with the National Conciliation Party to search for a solution to the so-called parliamentary strike, but we do not want to talk with the Nationalist Republican Alliance because it would be like talking to a wall."

ARENA Deputy's Criticism

PA081849 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 6 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] Dr Armando Calderon Sol, deputy of the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA), has said: "The parliamentary strike was a success, because it showed that PDC [Christian Democratic Party] deputies submissively approve everything that the Executive sends to them, regardless of whether we are present or not."

Calderon Sol said that this shows the PDC's lack of respect for the Salvadoran people, because in its absolute obedience to the Executive Branch it fails to study and debate draft bills presented to the assembly. Therefore, its deputies submissively approve everything regardless of whether it is good or bad for the people.

He added that Guevara Lacayo cannot boast that Legislative Assembly activities are following a normal course despite the parliamentary strike being staged by 27 opposition deputies. Calderon Sol said that from another standpoint, Guevara Lacayo could be right when he states that our strike is a failure, because in fact there is currently no work at the Legislative Assembly and there was no work in the months prior to our movement, because everything was being approved without the corresponding studies and without taking into consideration the debates generated by the opposition.

In the end, everything sent to the assembly by President Duarte was and continues to be submissively approved, the ARENA deputy added.

However, Calderon Sol said that the PDC is exposing to the public all the arrogance and totalitarianism that has characterized that party since it assumed power. It is also showing its inability to hold talks with sectors, thus highlighting its anomalous ruling style.

FMLN ANNOUNCES PLANS TO RELEASE OSICALA MAYOR

PA090044 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0011 GMT 9 Mar 87

[FMLN communique issued in Morazan on 8 March]

[Text] The FMLN reports to the Salvadoran people and the international and local media that on Monday, 9 March, after being held as an FMLN prisoner for 1 month, Osicala Mayor Mr Salomon Sanchez Garcia will be handed over to church representative Msgr Rodrigo Orlando Cabrera Cuellar, who will be accompanied by priest [name indistinct].

Msgr Rodrigo Orlando Cabrera Cuellar is bishop of Santiago de Maria. Mayor Salomon Sanchez Garcia remained a prisoner while we investigated his participation in the counterinsurgency war actions such as the "United To Rebuild" plan, the formation of the civilian defense bands and spy nets, and repression against the civilian population.

We reiterate our call to the Christian Democratic regime mayors not to be committed to the counterinsurgency war plans. We wish to reiterate to the mayors of towns in conflict-ridden areas our determination not to permit the operation of the local power. Those who persist in establishing it will be seized by our forces.

Revolution or death. We will win.

FMLN

Morazan, 8 March 1987

LACK OF RAINFALL, SABOTAGE CAUSE POWER RATIONING

PA081812 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 7 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] The Rio Lempa Hydroelectric Executive Commission [CEL] announced shared power distribution measures for the country.

These steps have become necessary because of the lack of rainfall during the 1986 wet season, which caused the worst drought in 30 years. This has reduced the water level of the Rio Lempa basin at the hydroelectric reservoirs to an average of 5 meters below the minimum level needed to generate power 24 hours a day.

CEL officials said that covering the hydroelectric demands by generating electricity with oil is very expensive and has a negative effect on the economy by having to use foreign exchange. The practice also causes a financial deficit for the institution.

Also reported was the subversives' increased sabotage of the national power system infrastructure with the destruction of electric towers, transformers, and substation equipment.

Guatemala has suffered the same drought. Therefore no power transfer to face the crisis is possible. The supply of power from Guatemala was suspended on 21 January.

CEL announced that it is forced to put electric power production rationing into effect, which means using the right combination from the technical and economic standpoints on the use of available energy resources needed to meet San Salvador's power demands. This in turn will mean shared distribution while the drought persists.

CEL officials asked for understanding and acceptance by the citizenry of the emergency measures.

GROWERS URGE CHANGE IN COFFEE MARKETING POLICY

PA090155 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 7 Mar 87 p 33

[Paid advertisement of the Association of Salvadoran Coffee Producers; date not given]

[Text] President Duarte, for the good of the 5 million Salvadorans, we again beg you not to continue destroying our national asset, "COFFEE" [word published in upper case].

Your policy of monopolizing the marketing of coffee has been the principal cause in the reduction of our production. The meager 1985-1986 and 1986-1987 crops were dilapidated through senseless speculation. There is, however, the possibility that the sales were consistent with the international coffee price and that what we are witnessing is the state's passing on to the state and the Salvadoran people. [sentence as published]

Our contribution to bringing this irrational action to a halt consists of suggesting to you that during the first few days of every week INCAFE [National Coffee Institute] report the sales of the previous week to the organizations engaged in coffee production. This was done until the notorious Manuel Inocente Morales Ehrlich suspended the practice 3 days after he assumed office as INCAFE's director president. When one is acting correctly, there is no reason to conceal facts.

HONDURAS

CONGRESS PRESIDENT ON DEFINING POLITICAL POSITION

PA070418 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Statements by National Congress President Carlos Orbin Montoya; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] We do not have a political position regarding the Central American problem. However, the government has a position regarding the current situation and security. The problem of Central America was discussed during the elections, and the traditional parties, which follow a conservative and reserved policy toward the Nicaraguan regime, obtained 95 percent of the votes. Consequently, we are now facing a motion presented by Nicolas Cruz Torres which is not connected with the traditional policy of the National Party nor with the statements made by its leader. Suddenly, we also face other positions, which are even more conservative and reactionary than the balanced position that has been maintained because of the need to have a neutral Honduras and a Honduras protected by its security and sovereignty.

Honduras is different from the other Central American countries it is completely different. We have a large border area with Nicaragua, and we have a desolate territory along that border, where the leftist or rightist guerrillas -- depending on the historical moment Nicaragua is experiencing -- swarm.

We have sheltered over 50,000 Nicaraguan refugees. We have also received a counterrevolution financed by the United States. This counterrevolution is located along the border area. Its leaders now say that the counterrevolution is fighting inside Nicaragua for what it believes are its rights. We have to move carefully along the razor's edge.

Avoiding involvement in the war is a national goal; maintaining our neutrality is a national goal; maintaining the country in peace is a national goal; and maintaining our country's security is a national goal.

We have sheltered revolutionary guerrilla movements that have come from Nicaragua. We have two important centers of guerrilla movements, one in Olancho and the other one in Atlantida, so we cannot ignore that Nicaragua is next to us and that there is a conflict in the region.

Therefore, the political parties should define their position and defend... [changes thought] because it seems to me that it is a little unfair to demand a military and political alliance with the United States and on the other hand condemn the actions that the U.S. Government carries out in the region.

We cannot only give shelter to the good [lo bueno]. We are in the conflict, and we are compelled to carry out actions that the government and the people will dislike, but that are necessary in view of the crisis.

I am going to be clearer. No one wants Honduras to be a territory to arm the contra movement, but that is a tactical issue. Through its resources, the U.S. Government can do this. It does it illegally, but it does succeed in doing it. I was saying yesterday: How do planes depart from Salvadoran airports to arm the contra movement? How do senators' reports say that Guatemala, Panama, and Costa Rica... [changes thought] how do we intend to ignore reality? How can we withdraw from this reality?

Therefore, with a political position of support for the government in this regard -- in other words, regarding our neutrality and our policy of nonintervention -- then our international policy should be led accordingly. If we have a position of solidarity with President Reagan's policy, we are forced to be accomplices in that policy. We have to define responsibilities.

We are also dealing with real actions. For instance: illegality, the factors that are outside the state's formal or official control. For example, we cannot, there is no way, Honduras can safeguard a 900-km border area without increasing its military budget. We would need approximately 20,000 men in [words indistinct]. This represents an increase of approximately 50 million [currency not given]. [passage omitted]

2,000 Demonstrate Against Contras

PA070052 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] The international and local media have agreed that only 2,000 people participated in yesterday's demonstration in support for the proposal presented by Deputy Nicolas Cruz Torres requesting the expulsion of the contras as well as U.S. troops from Honduran territory.

The demonstration organized by the Committee for the Coordination of Mass Organizations began at Parque del Obelisco and ended at the Morazan Central Square. The slogan of the demonstration was peace and sovereignty. During the demonstrations people accused the government of complicity in the murder of Honduran people by Nicaraguan rebels.

The Cruz Torres' proposal was presented to the National Congress in November 1986. It was supported by Deputies Manuel Zelaya Rosales and Efraim Diaz Arrivillaga, who were conspicuous by their absence at yesterday's demonstration.

The demonstrators shouted slogans supporting companero -- as they identified him -- Nicolas Cruz Torres. At the end of the demonstration, speakers stressed that the contras are occupying 450 square km of Honduran territory and that they are nearing Olancho.

Eduardo Tercero, representative of the displaced people, whom he described as war-displaced people, said that they have lost approximately 27 million lempiras. He said that they have lost over 50,000 cows, 100,000 pigs, and 50,000 quintals of coffee, not counting the current harvest and the 50 Hondurans who have been killed and others who are blind or crippled.

Today's edition of LA TRIBUNA says reporters traveled to the eastern area of the country to learn about the situation there. A cattleman from Machinga told reporters that the contras have stolen some animals, but he stressed that in that area there is not as many cattle as Mr Tercero said yesterday.

PAPER URGES DEMOCRATS TO SUPPORT REAGAN POLICIES

PA060424 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Mar 87 p 7

[Editorial: "Reagan: A New Attempt"]

[Text] When President Ronald Reagan requested a \$300-million budget allocation for Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and El Salvador on 3 March 1987, a new effort was being made by the U.S. leader to help the Central American democracies.

Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, informed the media in Washington that these funds would be divided as follows: \$100 million to be assigned to El Salvador to meet the most urgent needs resulting from the 1986 earthquake; and \$200 million to be distributed in this manner: Honduras, \$65 million; El Salvador, \$55 million; Costa Rica, \$40 million; and Guatemala, \$40 million.

The \$300-million allocation received initial approval from Congress last year, together with the \$100 million approved for the Nicaraguan anticommunist rebels. However, the official explained that "budgetary and legislative problems" prevented the disbursement of the funds.

Mr Abrams stated that the program proposed by the Kissinger Commission stipulated a \$6.4-billion disbursement in economic aid to Central America over a period ending in 1989.

He indicated that the President is proposing that the period be extended to 1992 and that \$500 million be added to the total funds that have been assigned to this program. Frank Carlucci, national security adviser to the President, personally informed the ambassadors of the four countries in Washington of the steps taken to obtain the new allocation. The State Department also let it be known that the funds would come from allocations that have already been made to that department and to the Defense Department.

At the same time, Peter McPherson, administrator of the Agency for International Development, stated that in the 2 years that have elapsed since Congress assigned the first funds to implement the Jackson Plan (based on the Kissinger Commission report), it has had a significant impact on the region.

This official said that nontraditional exports have increased in the region; there has been a return of capital to the area; infant mortality has decreased by 7 percent; school attendance has increased by 9 percent; and the Central American democratic institutions have been consolidated in an acceptable manner.

As things presently stand in Washington, with a violent psychological war underway among the Congress, the media, and the White House, it would not be unlikely for the Capitol leaders to deny Mr Reagan's request in an additional attempt to erode the presidential image and prevent him from claiming some advances in foreign policy.

If this should happen, it would be a serious example of political blindness on the part of the Democrats, who have a majority in both houses of Congress. It would imply that domestic sectarianism is being imposed over national priorities and the strategic interests of their own country.

In the final analysis, the Democrats must know that the Soviet Union is a true and concrete fact and that it is in a process of expansion. They must know that Cuba and Nicaragua are its satellites and the executors of many of its imperialist policies. They must know that the danger of totalitarianism in the region is increasingly overwhelming as the Soviet hegemony grows in the shadow of the internal strife that is eroding the solidarity of the hemispheric democracies, led by the United States.

In spite of appearances, there are some sensible voices among Democrats, those who do not want the USSR to be the big winner in Central America.

Hopefully, these voices will be raised in support of this new effort by President Reagan in favor of the free countries of the region.

This aid is vital to offset, if only partially, the lack of local and foreign private investment, and to alleviate as much as possible the damage done by underdevelopment, poverty, and iniquity.

Reagan has clearly challenged the Congress of his country. If, as a result of sectarian blindness, it refuses to help these peoples who want to live democratically, can it later elude responsibility for a new gulag a few miles from its territory, in the heart of the American hemisphere?

AZCONA URGES L.A. SOLIDARITY IN FACING DEBT

PA081940 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Honduran President Jose Azcona today asked Latin America to show its "solidarity" in rescheduling the foreign debt to ensure that all nations "enjoy the same situation."

The head of state said in this capital that only large debtors such as Mexico and Brazil have renegotiated their debt "with a certain degree of success," this is not true for nations with limited economies. This objective can be achieved "if all Latin American countries unite, given that they all face the same problem."

Economy Minister Reginaldo Panting said that Honduras must bear in mind Brazil's decision to freeze payments on its debt for 90 days and Peru's decision to amortize only 10 percent of exports to achieve "better negotiations."

Azcona said that "Honduras is paying its foreign debt although it is in trouble economically."

Despite a deficit in its trade balance -- exports totaled \$998 million and imports \$1,091,500,000 in 1986 -- Honduras this year will target 31 percent of exports to service its debt, which stood at \$2,552,500,000 last December.

The government has been renegotiating 8 percent of the debt for the past 4 years. The previous administration rejected the conditions set by foreign banks and preferred to not make any agreement that could hurt the national economy.

Currently, Honduras is "one step" away from concluding that renegotiation, which amounts to \$200 million; amortizations on that portion were frozen and its interests have only been partially paid, it was officially announced on Thursday.

LEFTISTS TAKE CREDIT FOR TEGUCIGALPA BOMBINGS

PA061739 [Editorial Report] Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish at 1130 GMT on 6 March reports that "several explosions took place last night in the capital," noting that the strongest one took place at approximately 1930 in the Humuya District of Tegucigalpa at a house occupied by "the Icaza family from Nicaragua." The announcer then says that a member of the family, Adela Icaza, is "well-known for her active membership and activities in support of the FDN." However, the family denied having any links with the FDN and the counterrevolutionaries.

The announcer then says that last night there were reports of two other bomb explosions in Tegucigalpa. In a phone-in report, newsman (Edgas Amado Lopez) indicates that a station reporter "could not confirm anything regarding a connection between the bombings" last night. He adds that another station report was able to confirm an explosion at the Juana Laynes or El Picacho Hill. The announcer then says that, as reported by the station during its evening newscast last night, the leftist Froilan Turcios Front has claimed credit for the bombings.

Another reporter states in a phone-in report that the Icaza family is hurriedly packing to leave the country and that the police believe that bomb that hit the house of the Icaza family may have been thrown from a moving car or a hill facing the house, but this could not be confirmed. "Damage to the house was not substantial," the report says, involving only "a few window panes." He says that "it is believed that this was intended to scare the family," which initially "denied being Nicaraguan." However, a family maid confirmed their nationality.

Finally, the announcer says that, according to reports this morning, the "military authorities have not yet been able to determine what type of explosive device was placed at the house occupied by the Icaza family."

NICARAGUA

RONALD REAGAN REQUESTS \$40 MILLION FOR CONTRAS

PA072007 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] A few hours after having pledged to correct his mistaken foreign policy and work more closely with the Congress, President Ronald Reagan fell back into his old ways yesterday when he demanded authorization to release the remaining \$40 million for the contras.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan again displayed his amnesia. Yesterday, a few hours after having promised to improve his style of government and work closely with the Congress, Reagan asked the congressmen to release the pending \$40 million in military aid for the Somozist contras. This attitude had plunged him into the Iran-contras scandal. This is the second installment of the \$100 million that the Congress itself approved last year. The administration will spend those funds on heavy weapons, because it believes that without such aid a negotiated solution in the Central American conflict is not possible.

Totally departing from past performance, Jim Wright of Texas, majority leader in the House of Representatives, will provoke a new confrontation next week when he will propose to the full session that any release of funds to the contras be suspended until the Reagan administration does what it has not yet done: justify how revenues from arms sales to Iran as well as \$12 million of the \$27 given to the contras in 1985 were spent. Another question is, how were millions of dollars and material aid collected by other countries and U.S. private organizations spent?

Reagan must change his policy toward Nicaragua, David Bonior, Democratic representative from Michigan, said. Democratic Representative David Bonior said in Washington yesterday that the position of Democratic senators and representatives in their respective Houses regarding the current Central American policy of the Reagan administration should cause President Ronald Reagan to think. Bonior said that a defeat for the administration in its attempt to convince the Congress to continue approving more funds for the Nicaraguan contras will be a clear signal for a change of policy toward Nicaragua. Bonior also gave assurances that the \$105 million requested for the next fiscal year will be rejected in September.

Bonior recalled that the Tower Commission's investigation on Irangate clearly linked the U.S. Government's National Security Council with illegal operations to provide military support to the contras while an explicit Congressional ban against such support was in force.

According to presidential spokesman Fitzwater, the counterrevolutionaries have made progress, but he was rebutted by a congressman who pointed out that what the counterrevolutionaries had done was live up to their bad reputation on human rights and military inefficiency. A group of congressmen refuse to approve \$40 million for the contras, because they believe that it would hamper the peace-seeking effort of the Contadora Group.

PROTEST SENT TO HONDURAS OVER 'HARASSMENT'

PA062326 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] Last night the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry was preparing a protest note to the Honduran Government over the harassment that took place yesterday by alleged Honduran guards from their territory against an EPS observation post. One soldier and three civilians were wounded.

The first harassment took place at 0800 with rifle fire against the observation post at El Palito Hill, 3 km southeast from Santo Tomas del Nance, in the northern area of Chinandega. One soldier, Ricardo Martinez, who is doing his SMP [Patriotic Military Service], was wounded during this attack.

Later, another harassment took place between 1000 and 1200 with 81-mm mortars toward the Nicaraguan area of Loma Malinche, 4 km southeast of Santo Tomas.

Civilian Evaristo Quintero (28), Antonio Delgado Vallejo (30), and Omar Canales Castillo (B) -- who are peasants living in the area -- were wounded during this second harassment.

SANDINIST POLICE REPORTEDLY ARREST COSEP'S CUADRA

PA081918 Paris AFP in Spanish 1853 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Gilberto Cuadra, vice president of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP) of Nicaragua, was arrested by Sandinist police this morning in an incident between government authorities and members of the opposition during a ceremony marking International Women's day in Managua.

According to initial reports provided by members of the opposition, Cuadra was arrested along with other political leaders who were not identified.

More on Arrest

PA082250 Paris AFP in Spanish 2146 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 8 Mar (AFP) -- Opposition spokesmen have reported that Gilberto Cuadra, vice president of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise (COSEP) in Nicaragua; and at least six opposition leaders and militants were arrested today by the Sandinist police following an incident in Managua during an event organized by female members of the Social Democratic Party.

The incident occurred near El Carmen Church, in the capital's downtown area, where the opposition members were participating in a mass as part of the celebrations of International Women's Day, according to Conservative leader Deputy Enrique Sotelo Borgen.

The event occurred when several dozen policemen arrived at the site to warn the opposition members that they could not hold a demonstration, as the organizers allegedly planned following the mass.

According to Sotelo, Ramon Garcia Vilchez, member of the Social Christian Party's executive commission; and opposition leaders Duilio Baltodano, Ismael Lopez, Daisy Membreno, and two Conservative militants were also arrested.

The activity was also sponsored by the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN), an opposition alliance that includes the Social Democrats, Social Christian Party [PSC], Constitutionalist Liberal Party, and a faction of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, plus COSEP, and two labor unions.

Witnesses said that there was some struggling following the policemen's arrival, because some of the participants challenged the authorities.

Public demonstrations without prior authorization are banned by the state of emergency that has prevailed in the country since 1982 and has suspended a series of constitutional guarantees.

Nevertheless, the CDN and opposition carried out several demonstrations early this year.

The Sandinist police had stopped a group of women who gathered as a committee of "political prisoners" mothers and relatives and planned a rally near the PSC installations approximately 1 and 1/2 months ago.

Efforts exerted this evening to ascertain if the authorities have decided to release the arrested persons or not proved fruitless.

CALERO REPORTS SANDINIST AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN

PA070108 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0047 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Adolfo Calero, top FDN leader, reported here today that the "freedom fighters" yesterday shot down an MI-24 helicopter belonging to EPS.

The anti-Sandinist leader asserted to ACAN-FEE that the Soviet-made aircraft engulfed in flames crashed at the community of Sislaio, 15 km from Puerto Viejo, in central Zelaya Department.

The helicopter was shot down with a SAM-7 missile, which was fired from a "Harold" [as received] rocket launcher, he added.

The force that dealt the blow on the Sandinist was led by Commander "Zacarias"; he and his men are part of the regional command under the leadership of Commander "Denis," Calero added.

"This is the second helicopter that we have shot down in less than 8 days; the previous one, a Soviet-made MI-17, was shot down on 27 February near Paukaya River, 25 km from San Pedro del Norte," the contra leader explained.

The first operations, which concluded when the MI-24 was shot down, was carried out by the "Jorge Salazar" command, which is lead by Commander "Rigoberto," Calero added.

The leader said there is yet no information about the casualties sustained when the two aircraft were shot down.

CONTRA LEADERS ANALYZE TOP-LEVEL CHANGES

PA080438 Paris AFP in Spanish 2351 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Anti-Sandinist sources revealed today that the disappearance of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO), and its replacement by a new organization that complies with the conditions for the United States' military aid, will be defined tomorrow by counterrevolutionary leaders in this capital.

A UNO spokesman reported to AFP that the measure is aimed at changing the movement -- affected in recent weeks by a strong political crisis and lack of credibility -- into the Nicaraguan democratic resistance, "which is the intended recipient of U.S. military aid" to the contras, he said.

He also stated: The UNO assembly, which began its deliberations in this capital today will analyze tomorrow the expansion of its directorate to include new members -- Southern Opposition Bloc (BOS) leader Alfredo Cesar among them.

The idea was presented by Donald Lacayo, representative of the FDN, which is accused of being pro-Somozist, in a publication that UNO has distributed in San Jose.

Lacayo's proposal is titled "Crisis and Solution" and he admits that, following the contras' internal problems, the anti-Sandinist organization is "divided, sectarianized, and immersed in internal struggles," so it must change course.

Lacayo proposed the expansion of UNO's directorate -- currently comprised of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, Arturo Cruz, and Alfonso Robelo -- and the inclusion of conservative, liberal, social Christian, social democratic, BOS, Atlantic coast, and labor representatives.

The UNO source recognized that Lacayo's proposal agrees with the one that Chamorro and Robelo will present at the assembly on Sunday, and includes dissolving BOS -- which is led by Cesar -- and "distributing its members among the new political-military structures, including the assembly."

Lacayo's proposal goes further by including the dissolution of the FDN -- which has received most of the United States' military assistance -- and its national directorate, to comprise what could be called the "National Liberation Army."

AFP was told that the changes will be analyzed this Sunday by the UNO assembly members, who failed to reach important agreements in their discussions today.

All they did was hear two reports presented by Chamorro -- who only participated in the assembly for 1 hour -- but these will be analyzed on Sunday, in the presence of another directorate member, Alfonso Robelo, who was absent today.

Chamorro revealed a directorate resolution in which they "unanimously agreed to centralize all the financial resources, both public and private," and this will apply "both in the political and military area."

The measure is intended to prevent further problems concerning the handling of funds as happened with the resources obtained from the sales of U.S. weapons to Iran. It was revealed that the control of these funds was handled by Adolfo Calero, top-level FDN leader who recently resigned from the UNO directorate.

The concentration of funds for the Nicaraguan resistance in Calero's hands caused a strong confrontation with Cruz, who accused Calero of withholding information about the distribution of resources, and eventually led to Calero's replacement by Chamorro.

Chamorro also presented a directorate communique to the assembly, which states that "all the Nicaraguan liberal groups are welcome to join UNO's forces," and this is considered an important step forward in the integration of new forces within the organized anti-Sandinist opposition.

The UNO spokesman told AFP that the goal is to change the Nicaraguan opposition's image, to cut its links with Somozism and show that it is united and organized.

Tonight UNO will also elect the new members of the directorate council, which is currently presided over by Wilfredo Montalvan. Even though there is no information about the strongest candidates a source asserted that the current members will not be reelected.

UNO PRAISES CALERO'S 'UNYIELDING STRUGGLE'

PA071427 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 Feb 87 p 11

[Paid advertisement by the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity]

[Text] ASSEMBLY OF THE NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION UNITY [capitalized passage as published]

San Jose, Costa Rica, 24 February 1987
Dr Adolfo Calero P.,
President of the FDN Directorate

Dear Dr Calero:

Following a resolution approved during the 6th Assembly of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) held in San Jose, Costa Rica on 22 February 1987, we hereby send you the following message that we will make public:

Voicing the feelings of the Nicaraguan people, who are anxious to live in peace with bread and freedom, the UNO Assembly has been moved by your resignation from the UNO Directorate. You presented your resignation to this institution, thus recognizing its qualifications.

When your message was officially announced to the assembly, the delegates who spoke unanimously recognized your strong personality and your undeniable and unyielding struggle for the liberation of our fatherland. They agreed that you carried this struggle first during the long dynastic dictatorship of the Somozas, and now against the so-called Sandinist Front, which infamously betrayed the ideals of the vast majority of the Nicaraguan people when it imposed a Marxist-Leninist tyranny, bowing before the inhumane and destructive Soviet imperialism. With this, the Sandinists have negated the liberating and nationalist struggle of General Sandino, whose name has been infamously usurped.

You were never a Somozist and you never served the communists. You have been the main author and inspirator of the FDN, and have devoted yourself -- as a civilian with great devotion, and we hope you will continue doing so -- to the struggle on the battlefield, a struggle that our peasants and workers are waging with a profound love for their homeland.

With the attitude of an authentic patriot, you have won the honor of being the worthy representative of all the Nicaraguans who love sovereignty and freedom and who hope for a Nicaragua that will have a democratic regime and social justice. We trust you will always be with us.

Your generosity, for the sake of unity, is undoubtedly a marvelous action by a true patriot who has given priority to the needs of the fighters above any other personal interest, and that merits our admiration and recognition.

As you have heard, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios has been unanimously elected by this assembly as a new member of the UNO Directorate. That unanimity shows it was a wise choice by the FDN (UNO-FDN) Directorate to nominate him. We are sure that Mr Chamorro will be able to assume the responsibility that has been assigned to him.

In concluding, Dr Calero, we completely agree with you when you say: "Nicaragua can be saved if its destiny is in the hands of the Nicaraguans who feel the pulse of its historical being and who fully identify with its national heroes while rejecting foreign intervention."

Therefore, this UNO Assembly wishes to make public this acknowledgement. We are struggling and will continue struggling so Nicaragua can once again become a Republic.

/As long as there is no democracy in Nicaragua, there will be no peace in Nicaragua./
[passage between slantlines published in boldface]

Directive Council of the UNO Assembly

[Signed] Wilfredo Montalvan, president;

Marvin Campos A., secretary;

Dolores Tuckler, second deputy secretary;

Porfirio Molina Mejia, second vice president;

Vicente Rappaccioli, first deputy secretary;

Donovan Brautigam, board member.

Responsible signature for this advertisement: Marvin Campos, ID card number 071160495484

TINOCO TO PROMOTE UNIFIED STANCE ON DEBT

PA081926 Paris AFP in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 7 Mar (AFP) — Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said today in this capital that Nicaragua is in favor of Latin America taking "unifying" steps to face the problem of the foreign debt which currently amounts to more than \$360 billion.

Tinoco said at a news conference that this will be Nicaragua's position at the special ministers meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement to take place in Georgetown, Guyana, from Monday to Wednesday of next week. The main subjects of this meeting will be the Central American situation and the economic problems of the developing countries, including the debt.

The Nicaraguan diplomat said that his government will be present in Georgetown with the intention of promoting "unifying" debt positions among the Latin American countries.

He insisted that it is necessary that the nationals of the hemisphere achieve a maturity level that would permit in the near future "the adoption of joint and collective actions so that the measures adopted by the various states to face the problem are not contradictory" because, he said, "the idea is to advance on this type of line, which is fundamental."

The deputy foreign minister explained that "the problem of the debt is that it cannot be paid." He noted that the problem is common to all the Latin American nations, regardless of the size of the debt each may have with the international financial centers.

According to official sources, Nicaragua's debt amounts to \$5 billion. In the past 5 years, the Sandinist government has been able to renegotiate its obligations to pay approximately \$600 million annually. Tinoco said that the Nicaraguan Government agrees with the points established in the so-called Cartagena Agreement and that his country believes that it is unacceptable to pay the debt at the "expense" of the living conditions of the people.

After having said that Nicaragua agrees that the creditors and the debtors each have a "share of the responsibility" because payments on the foreign debt and on interests must satisfy the expectations of the financial sources, Tinoco stated: "It is not possible to sacrifice the interests of the people to pay the interest."

He said: "This is not a matter of exporting capital only but of dynamizing the flow of capital to the countries. [sentence and quotation marks as received]"

Recently Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega reacted to Brazil's decision to freeze the payments on the interest of the foreign debt for 90 days, saying that his nation is in no condition to pay the service on the debt, even if it wanted to do so. Ortega said that his government's policy for this year will be to renegotiate the country's foreign debt, which is already in a moratorium, and to seek reasonable deadlines and interest rates.

AUTHORITIES CONFIRM MURDER OF FSLN DEPUTY

PA062314 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1517 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 6 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan officials confirmed today that Sandinist deputy Jose Filemon Hernandez was shot four times and killed.

Filemon Hernandez' body was found in the 1st of May neighborhood, in the eastern part of the city, on Tuesday, 3 March, at 0830.

Javier Lopez, deputy chief of the Sandinist police, stated that the deputy, 51, who has nine children, was murdered in the eastern part of Managua on the night of Monday, 2 March, when he was shot four times with a .22-caliber revolver.

The official newspaper BARRICADA cited Sandinist officials as saying that "everything indicates that Deputy Hernandez' murder was not connected to theft, because all his belongings were intact."

Officials revealed that on the body they found a wristwatch, cash, a Makarov pistol, and a portfolio with National Assembly documents.

The police have arrested five people but their names have not been revealed so as not to obstruct the investigations.

Filemon Hernandez was a leader of the neighborhood Sandinist committees and a religious leader.

Four Sandinist deputies have died of different causes since 1983.

GOVERNMENT REPORTS 'MERCENARY' CASUALTIES

PA061446 Managua International Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry has officially announced that the mercenary forces have suffered a total of 541 casualties in more than 300 clashes in various areas of the northern part of the country and in Zelaya Department on the Atlantic coast. The ministry report indicates that 358 casualties reported were deaths and the remainder were wounded. The monthly report for February also explains that during this period a large amount of military equipment was recovered, highlighting the seizure of more than 7,000 pounds of war materiel.

LIZICHEV DELEGATION MEETS RAUL CASTRO, DEPARTS

FL071323 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1303 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The delegation led by Army General Aleksey Dmitriyevich Lizichev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the USSR Army and Navy, has been received at Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee headquarters by Army General Raul Castro, PCC second secretary. [Havana International Service in Spanish at 2300 GMT on 7 March, reporting on the Lizichev-Raul Castro meeting, states that the "fraternal meeting was also attended by Division Generals Rogelio Acevedo Gonzalez and Sixto Batista Santana, as well as Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Kapto."]

During its stay in Cuba, the delegation visited various places of interest. In Guantanamo, it toured the border brigade and Holguin it was briefed on important aspects of the preparations for the war of all the people in that region.

Lizichev and Division General Rogelio Acevedo also held talks in a fraternal atmosphere in which they exchanged views on the party's political work in their respective armed forces. They stressed the importance of political work in combat readiness.

Shortly afterward, the Soviet delegation left for home.

SOVIET FACTORY TESTS PUMPS FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

PA072138 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] On 6 March tests of the powerful pumps that will operate in Cuba's first nuclear power plant, which is being built in Cienfuegos Province, concluded with great success in the USSR. The machine factory in the Ukrainian city of Sumy, which is highly experienced in the construction of equipment for Cuba, finished building the pumps that will soon be sent to our country. Spokesman at the Sumy Soviet factory stated that the equipment was built with the tropical climate in mind and has innovative features.

RESULTS OF 'SANTA FE DOCUMENT' POLICY ASSAYED

PA081911 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary read by Pedro Garcia Suarez]

[Text] It is general knowledge that the foreign policy guidelines implemented by President Ronald Reagan when he assumed power were established in a document called the Santa Fe document.

In that document, the head of state's advisers advised him, among other things, to stifle the Nicaraguan revolution and topple the Grenadian Government. As is known, the latter action was actually carried out in October 1983.

However, defeating the Nicaraguan revolution was no easy task. That is why the U.S. Government has involved all of Central America in a conflict of considerable proportions. We must note that in carrying out this ominous plan, the United States has sought and partly obtained the support of almost all countries in the area. To that end, it has targeted \$1.5 billion, mainly to support its main allies: El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

In this way, Washington's military aid to the Jose Napoleon Duarte regime, which was granted \$180 million for 1987, thwarts the possibility of dialogue with insurgent forces to end the war in El Salvador.

In Costa Rica, a nation without an army and which boasts that it is neutral, the United States permanently maintains 1,000 soldiers as advisers in addition to counterrevolutionary settlements of Nicaraguan origin.

As for Honduras, U.S. bastion in Central America, the strategic importance of this nation U.S. warmongering plans has moved the Republican administration to reinforce its war footing there in the past 12 months. In this regard, we must reaffirm that the war atmosphere has intensified as a result of numerous joint military maneuvers carried out by U.S. and Honduran troops. Those maneuvers mainly aim to train U.S. troops for a possible direct attack on Nicaragua.

In addition, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica are being used, through useless simultaneous plans, to sabotage the peace efforts being carried out by the Contadora Group.

For the past 2 years, an obsessive desire to topple the Managua authorities has led President Reagan to make the most incredible mistakes, for which he is still paying the consequences. We are talking about Washington's aid to groups of former Somozists who, after all, have not reached the supreme objective that is keeping the U.S. President awake at night.

So far, the events have shown that not everything was foreign in the so-called Santa Fe document.

GUATEMALA ADMITS GIVING AID TO CONTRAS

PA070358 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle has admitted that military men from his country were involved in supplying arms to Nicaraguan contras. This is a report by Alvaro Ruiz of the CERIGUA new agency:

[Begin Ruiz recording] Through its vice president, Carpio Nicolle, the Guatemalan Government has admitted the country's participation in supplying arms to Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. This admission occurred after the Tower Commission report mentioned this as one of the countries involved in the case known as contragate. According to the report, Robert McFarlane met with head of state General Oscar Mejia Victores, who agreed on Guatemala's participation in the operation in exchange for greater U.S. military and economic aid for Guatemala in 1985. Carpio Nicolle said that Guatemala's participation in the aid for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries occurred during the military governments and that the current one, led by the Christian Democratic Party, was part of the U.S. clandestine network. [sentence as heard]

The Guatemalan vice president's remarks, however, put the high-ranking Army officers in an embarrassing situation. All of them commanded troops and held administrative control positions in the Army during Mejia Victores' government. General Cesar Augusto Caceres Rojas, current national defense chief of staff, who has been marked as the direct intermediary between the contras and the Guatemalan Army, played a particularly important role.

According to reports from various sources, Guatemala's participation in the support for the Somozists included the use of territory for training bases in Izabal Department in the country's northeast and the La Polvora military base in Peten Department in the country's north, and the transportation of about 765 tons of military equipment purchased with money from Irangate from various countries.

Given the circumstances under which President Vinicio Cerezo governs, the Tower Commission report apparently will not result in anyone being held responsible.

CRISIS TO 'HIT HONDURAN GOVERNMENT SQUARELY'

PA080014 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 87

[By Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] Everything seems to indicate that a political crisis threatens to hit the Honduran Government squarely.

The fact that the majority of Honduran people disagree with the presence of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries in their national territory is one of the various factors that could unleash this crisis.

The march of nearly 3,000 demonstrators in Tegucigalpa on Thursday clearly showed the constant internal pressure caused by the undesirable presence of the mercenaries in the country. We deem it worth recalling that, backed by Honduran authorities, about 10,000 counterrevolutionaries are stationed at the border with Nicaragua, from where they constantly raid the neighboring country. In addition, these immoral forces constitute a growing obstacle against the economic activities of the area residents, most of them coffee growers, who on numerous occasions have reported the loss of their crops and other problems provoked by the ex-Somozists.

During the Thursday march the demonstrators presented their views to the national congress. On behalf of those displaced from the border, one of the speakers held the counterrevolutionaries responsible for the loss of goods and property worth an estimated \$12 million. As is well known, the mercenaries are backed by the U.S. Government, to which the Honduran Government is tightly bound.

This makes President Azcona appear dominated by foreign interests and increases the danger of a crisis. In addition to all this, the president is pressured by the congress. The deputies agree that the mercenaries should leave Honduras. If to this situation we add the serious national economic problem, we can say that the panorama gets darker and darker for one of the most important U.S. allies in Central America.

GRANMA SURVEYS SURINAME'S GUERRILLA MOVEMENT

PA080332 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 87

["What the Press Has To Say" feature]

[Text] The military regime of Suriname, formerly a colony of the Netherlands situated in the northwestern portion of South America, is currently experiencing a serious crisis.

Reporter Osvaldo Cardenas has written an extensive article about this. Published in GRANMA's weekly summary, the article will be the basis for today's program.

The article, entitled "The Revolution of the Sergeants Falls Apart," says that a group of rebels has stationed itself in the Maruitni district and that the economic situation is worsening. The military, the government, and the political forces that cooperate with them compete with each other amid serious internal strife and contradictions.

Meanwhile, the government has to cope with the propaganda campaign in the Western news media, which accuse it of involvement in drug traffic and flagrant human rights violations. Faced with this situation of growing isolations. Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse, commander in chief of the Army and strongman of the regime, was forced to allow a political opening by incorporating into the process the traditional parties, the management sector, and the trade unions.

The GRANMA weekly summary says that these forces -- that had had limited possibilities of effectively influencing the national political life since 1980, that have no way of removing the military from power, and that would rather avoid a violent confrontation, which they are not prepared to tackle -- have accepted participation in a gradual and peaceful democratic transition process. This project demanded an arduous negotiation, during which a reforms program was agreed upon that included the promulgation of a new constitution, general elections in 1987, a proposal about the role played by the military authorities, and guaranteed for a legal system.

Reporter Cardenas thinks that the so-called process of orderly transition to democracy has suddenly been threatened by unexpected events. A rebel group known as "Jungle Command" headed by ex-sergeant Ronnie Brunswijk, who was also a member of Bouterse's armed escort, began operations at the end of last July. The ex-military man belongs to one of the tribes living in the country's interior. This seems to have gained him the support of this ethnic group, which represents nearly 8 percent of Suriname's population.

GRANMA's weekly summary goes on to say that the rebel movement operates in the (?Majujno) district in the country's east and on the border with French Guiana and is backed by rightist opposition organizations in exile. Many think the movement is manipulated from abroad. Although the guerrillas do not now appear to be able to defeat the government, their liquidation does not appear to be an easy matter, considering the relative weakness of the Surinamese Army due to its relatively small size, type of training and armament, and little moral combativeness. To this we have to add the tribes' familiarity with the terrain and country's geographical characteristics. Eighty percent of it is covered by forests and tropical savannas.

Confrontations between soldiers and rebels and the shortage of foodstuffs and medicines have created a serious social situation for the area residents, many of whom have sought refuge elsewhere, particularly in French Guiana.

On a national level, the traditional parties that participate in the government, as well as the national assembly, and the Christian Church Committee, have condemned the rebels' actions. These sectors are afraid that the rebels might thwart the so-called democratic opening process and strengthen the positions of the military sectors, which oppose a gradual transfer of political power to civilians.

On an international level, the Netherlands Government has refuted Suriname's charges that the former supports terrorist actions and interferes with its domestic affairs. Despite this, the Surinamese Government has demanded that the Netherlands recall its ambassador, D.J. van Houten.

Reporter Cardenas concludes the article by saying that although the military is facing an acute crisis and is increasingly worn out, it can still maneuver -- basically because of the weakness of the other political forces, both internal and external -- to offer a convincing alternative.

URUGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER, DELEGATION ARRIVE

FL051251 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias arrived in our country early this morning for an official visit at the invitation of the Cuban Foreign Ministry. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, Foreign Vice Minister Ricardo Alarcon, and Cuban Ambassador to Uruguay Joaquin Mas, welcomed the distinguished guest. Iglesias is accompanied by parliament members of the Colorado and National Parties, and the Broad Front coalition, as well as by a group of Uruguayan businessmen industrialists.

The Uruguayan foreign minister will hold official talks with his Cuban counterpart at the MINREX [Ministry of Foreign Relations] headquarters this morning.

Speaking to the press Enrique Iglesias made reference to the importance of this visit, bilateral relations, and Latin American unity, among other matters.

[Begin Iglesias recording] [Words indistinct] we certainly believe more and more that unity should continue to make progress, especially during hard times such as the world is currently experiencing. I believe unity is more and more a sort of regional self-defense in dealing with difficulties. It does not exclude relations with the rest of the world but we certainly have to rediscover it by giving it a political boost and finding practical meaning to these efforts. I believe they are needed now more than ever. [end recording]

Talks Begin

FL052226 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Official talks have begun at the Foreign Ministry headquarters in Havana, presided over by Isidoro Malmierca and Enrique Iglesias Garcia, Cuban and Uruguayan foreign ministers, respectively.

At the beginning of the talks, Malmierca expressed his satisfaction for this contact and for the sympathy and feelings of brotherhood between the two countries. He also stressed the solidarity Cuba has always received from the Uruguayan people.

Iglesias Garcia and his delegation will hold official talks on bilateral topics.

This afternoon, the Uruguayan delegation placed floral wreaths at the Jose Marti statue in the central park and at the bust of (?Uruguay's) (Jose Gerbasio Artigas) in Fraternity Park.

Trade Explored

FL061853 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] A special mission from Uruguay; headed by Isidoro Onara, general director of foreign trade in that country, and made up of close to 30 businessmen from more than 20 companies, is visiting Cuba to explore mutual exchange possibilities.

During the welcoming and commercial information session held at the Riviera Hotel in this capital, the visitors received a thorough overview of the Cuban market, its export funds, and the operation of banking relations and foreign cooperation.

Central Bank Visited

FL071853 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias today visited the National Bank of Cuba. He was received by the bank's president, Hector Rodriguez Llompart. They discussed matters of mutual interest.

Bilateral Trade Discussed

FL062055 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias met this morning with Ernesto Melendez Bach, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, CECE, at the headquarters of that organization.

During the meeting, attended also by Joaquin Mas, Cuban ambassador in Montevideo, and Rafael Pineyra, Uruguayan ambassador in Havana, various topics were discussed, including the possibilities of bilateral cooperation. It was reported that a partial trade agreement and a scientific and technical cooperation agreement will be signed this afternoon.

Iglesias also met this morning with Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas. The two discussed economic matters of mutual interest.

Agreement Signed

FL070227 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] This afternoon, Cuba and Uruguay signed an economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation agreement at the Foreign Ministry in Havana.

Isidoro Malmierca and Enrique Iglesias, Cuban and Uruguayan foreign ministers, respectively, signed the agreement, which includes joint projects, the commercialization of entire plants and capital goods, and industrial cooperation. The agreement also includes scientific and technical exchange of expertise, joint research, and the exchange of technical missions. The protocol has a 5-year term, which can be extended without an express agreement.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Foreign Ministry officials from the two countries were present when the agreement was signed.

Rodriguez, Delegation Meet

FL070244 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] This morning, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, received the Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias and his delegation.

They stressed the importance of this meeting in strengthening bilateral relations following the vigorous course that began when diplomatic relations were reestablished.

After making an extensive evaluation of bilateral relations, special emphasis was given to economic matters.

The Uruguayan delegation includes representatives of the principal political forces of Uruguay and a large group of chamber of industry businessmen and officials.

This visit demonstrates the fraternal friendship that has historically existed between the peoples of Uruguay and Cuba.

Foreign Minister Interviewed

PA082350 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Interview with Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias by Carmen Esquivel; in Cuba -- recorded]

[Text] [Esquivel] Sir, how important is your visit to Cuba for strengthening bilateral relations?

[Iglesias] The purpose of this visit is to get to know each other better and explore possibilities of cooperation in all fields, especially in the commercial field. This is why we have come to Cuba accompanied by businessmen who are in the import and export business, to see how we can increase our markets through the exchange of goods and services.

[Esquivel] Last night you signed several bilateral cooperation agreements. What can you tell us about that?

[Iglesias] We signed two agreements. One has to do with commercial cooperation. It is called an agreement of partial scope. It calls for the exchange of lists of products to explore commerce possibilities in the two countries. This is the legal framework that will regulate future actions.

We also signed an economic, scientific, and technological cooperation agreement, which is aimed at opening the doors to cooperation in these sectors. These doors will be explored progressively during future contacts we will have with the Cuban authorities.

[Esquivel] Can you talk to us about how you see the future of trade between Cuba and Uruguay?

[Iglesias] The outlook for commerce among Third World countries is always marked these days by the difficulties we are presently going through. However, I believe that as a result of the contacts that the large group of Uruguayan businessmen who have come to Cuba has had with the Cuban authorities and enterprises, it has been clearly determined that the two countries could complement each other very well.

I believe this is a modest beginning -- we are beginning to examine some opportunities -- but as we come to know each other better and as things improve everywhere, I believe we are going to have trade again. This trade existed in the past. We are not inventing anything new here. There was trade between Cuba and Uruguay in the past. I believe we will march with firm steps with the support, of course, of the two governments, which attribute particular importance to these commercial relations.

[Esquivel] What is Uruguay's position regarding Brazil's decision to indefinitely suspend payment of the foreign debt interest?

[Iglesias] We are always respectful of the decisions of countries such as Brazil that are trying to renegotiate their current foreign debt under better conditions so there is congruency between their desire to pay and fulfill their commitments and the development of their economies.

I believe those negotiations will go well. This implies that there will be understanding from the creditors and there will be adequate Brazilian domestic policies. I believe that the two sides are moving in the right direction and that they will have negotiations suitable for the development of Brazil.

[Esquivel] What is your impression of Cuba?

[Iglesias] As you know, I am an old visitor here. When I was at the United Nations, I used to come here often to attend meetings, so I am always glad to be in this country and to meet with old friends again.

I have gained from this visit because I have been able to talk a lot and spend time with my colleagues -- the senators and deputies who are accompanying me -- and to exchange opinions; and this has been very fruitful for everybody.

COLOMBIAN LABOR UNREST GROWS, STRIKE LOOMS

PA071918 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Labor conflicts have sharpened in Colombia even though authorities have threatened to dismiss those who take part in campaigns to demand higher wages and social benefits.

The strikes, demonstrations, and rallies -- in which over 120,000 workers have participated in this week -- took on particular impetus in the banana areas of Uraba, the state-run oil enterprises, and the health and railroad sectors. The boom in trade union activities and the Colombian Government's and employers' scant shows of political willingness to solve the conflicts have heightened expectations that a 24-hour nationwide labor strike will soon be declared.

CULTURAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION

FLO71250 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] A cultural cooperation agreement between the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples [ICAP] and the Cuba-Brazil Cultural Association in Brasilia was signed this afternoon at ICAP headquarters in Havana. Maria Auxiliadora Cesar and Luis Morejon signed the document for the two countries. The 5-year agreement establishes an official contribution for the two peoples to learn about each other and to exchange information. The two associations will account in their work for all historic dates, anniversaries, and achievements of Cuba and Brazil. The vehicles for this exchange will be books, brochures, videotapes, and joint activities.

The Cuba-Brazil Association in Brasilia was founded in June 1986 prior to the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

DISCONTENT OVER HAITIAN REFERENDUM NOTED

FLO61635 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Several Haitian social organizations have expressed to authorities their dissatisfaction over the short period of time given to examine the country's new constitution. The original draft has 225 articles. A referendum on the new constitution is scheduled for 29 March.

PINAR DEL RIO REPORTS SUGAR PRODUCTION DEFICITS

FLO61711 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Pinar Del Rio Province's state and private sector farmers have collected a total of 9,440,000 tobacco leaf bundles. Only 80 caballerias are left before the area's planting plans are fulfilled. However, recent persistent rains have increased the delays in production levels in the province's five sugar mills. They have a 25,000-ton sugar deficit.

HOLGUIN SUGAR CYCLE RUNNING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

FLO62016 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Report by Hernan Santos in Holguin]

[Text] Holguin Province reached the fourth step of the 730,000 tons of sugar planned for the current sugar harvest cycle early this morning. Holguin workers attained the 400,000-ton mark 4 days before schedule to greet 8 March, International Women's Day, and the UYC [Union of Young Communists] provincial assembly set to take place here on Sunday.

Workers of the Antonio Maceo, Lopez Pena, and Fernando de Dios complexes especially stood out in this accomplishment, as they were the first to fulfill their goals, together with the workers of the Urbano Noris and Oinares Chavarria complexes, which also exceeded their respective goals. Holguin Province will be the seat on 21 March of the national check of special harvest emulation because of its outstanding work during this harvest season.

'LOST TIME' DURING HARVEST HIGHEST IN LAS TUNAS

FLO71531 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1304 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The sugarcane harvest analysis covering the last 10 days of February shows some reports of lost time in the sugar industry because of the lack of sugarcane, especially in the provinces of Guantanamo and Las Tunas. Although the effects of the drought could be determining factors in the sugarcane shortage, above all in some territories, where the absence of rain caused devastation this past spring, attention must be paid to the productivity per canecutter and harvesting equipment during the remainder of the sugarcane harvest. Las Tunas, a province that is moving along in the fulfillment of its sugar plan, wasted more than 5 percent of the allotted time in the 21-28 February period because of lack of sugarcane and more than 10 percent because of disruptions in operations. Time lost by the sugar industry in Las Tunas in the last 10 days of the month was more than 26 percent, the highest in the country.

OIL ENTERPRISE TO BEGIN OCEAN DRILLING

FLO70414 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The oil center enterprise [empresa de petroleos centro], which will provide Cuba with more than 1 million tons of oil in the year 1990, is planning on ocean drilling and the incorporation of new wells.

The prospective development of the oil center enterprise through the year 1990 will incorporate new oil wells and fields. This year, 35 oil wells will be drilled and in 1990, with operations beginning at other oil fields, there will be 325 oil wells in use.

The current plan also includes collection and pipeline systems to connect these centers with the main storage area where the all of the fuel in the region is stored.

Deeper drilling — between 4,000 and 5,000 meters — will be added to the Varadero-Cardenas energy program in Matanzas as well as initial drilling in the ocean. Currently, oil exploration in Cardenas Bay is being studied and within the next 5 years, 3 platforms will be built in the bay. Ocean drilling will begin in 1988 and a rigorous contingency plan has been prepared to avoid contamination of the bay, either by accident or by the actual extraction of oil.